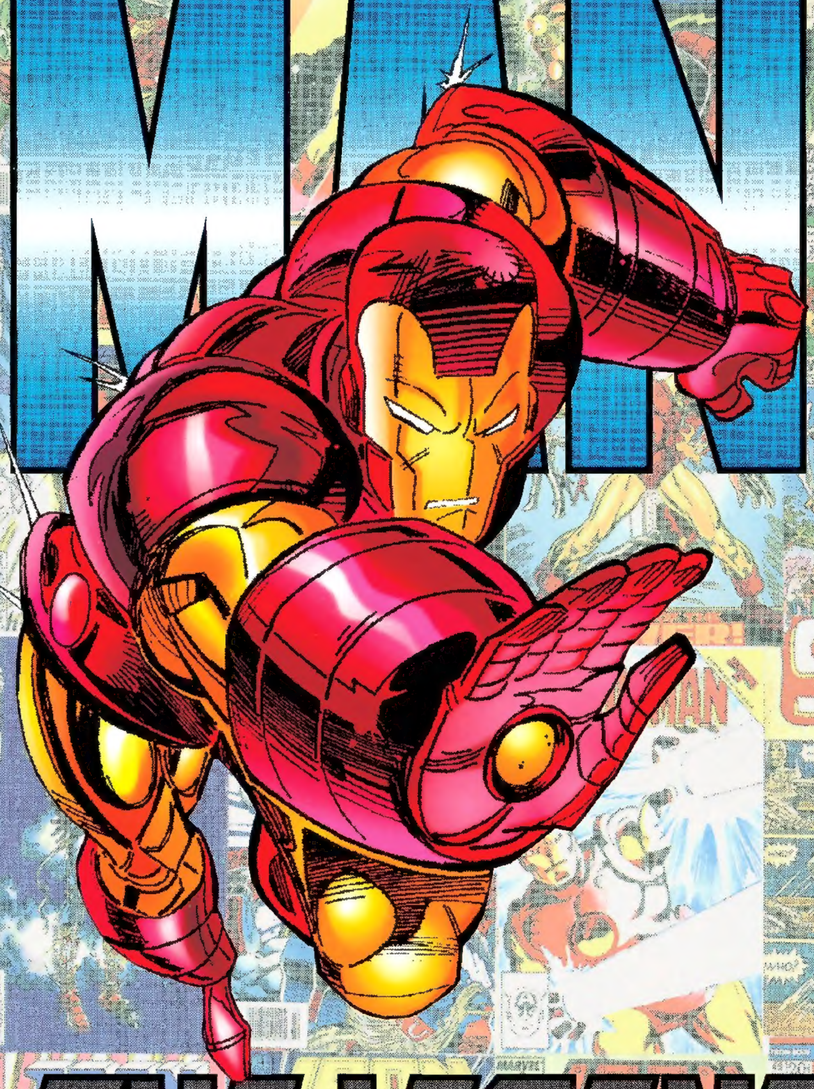
CELEBRATING OVER 30 YEARS OF HIGH-TECH HEROISM WITH THE ARMORED AVENGER-- FEATURING THE LOWDOWN ON TONY STARK'S CATACLYSMIC CAREER, AWESOME ARMAMENTS, INCREDIBLE INVEN-TIONS, BOLD BUSINESSES, MIL-LIONAIRE MANSIONS, FECKLESS FRIENDS, FEARSOME FOES, LOVELY LADIES, ARMORED ALLIES, AND MUCH MORE!

MARVEL COMICS

SPECIAL TRIBUTE ISSUE

IRON MAN®



THE LEGEND

IRON MAN: THE LEGEND

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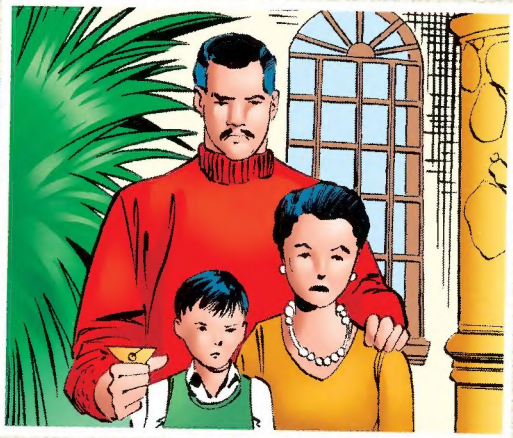
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TONY STARK: A Life In Pictures

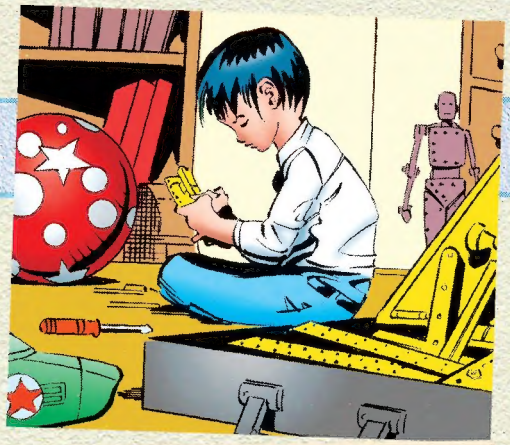
As renowned as Iron Man is as one of America's leading heroes, he is just as important to the world as multimillionaire inventor Tony Stark. Though his double identity is known to relatively few, the lives and careers of Tony Stark and Iron Man have been copiously recorded by the news media from the very beginning.



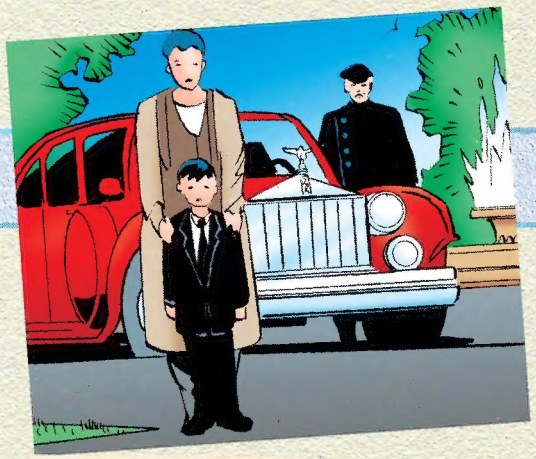
ANTHONY STARK was famous from the day he was born. His father, HOWARD STARK, founder of STARK INDUSTRIES, had become America's leading MUNITIONS maker during the COLD WAR. His only unfulfilled ambition was for a SON to carry on the family name and business. After many years, his wife MARIA finally gave birth to their only child.



But Howard Stark was an embittered, UNHAPPY man who drowned his ANGER in ALCOHOL. He DESPISED his young son for preferring his BOOKS to SPORTS.



At the age of FIVE, young Tony found the means to ESCAPE his father's OPPRESSION. Through playing with a simple ERECTOR SET, he discovered his TALENT for BUILDING things NO ONE had ever seen before.



Finding his bookish son an EMBARRASSMENT, Howard Stark sent him off to BOARDING SCHOOL at the age of SEVEN, much to the DISTRESS of Maria and the loyal family butler, EDWIN JARVIS, who was like a kindly UNCLE to the lonely boy.



Tony found few friends at this rich boys' school, but he found INSPIRATION in his READING, not simply about SCIENCE but also about the HEROES of OLDEN DAYS.



MARIA persuaded HOWARD to let the teenage TONY return HOME. But when TONY fell in love with MEREDITH McCALL, the daughter of Howard's business RIVAL, Howard quickly PACKED him off to EUROPE.



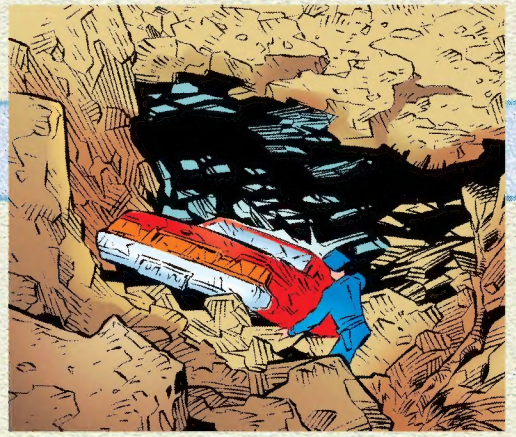
By now, though, Tony's TEACHERS recognized him as a young PRODIGY. He GRADUATED from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a DOUBLE MAJOR in PHYSICS and ENGINEERING while he was STILL in his TEENS.



Now able to ACCESS his TRUST FUND, Tony REVELED in the FREEDOM he finally had to do ANYTHING he WANTED. He seemed to be LOOKING for SOMETHING to do with his LIFE. BORED with his STUDIES, he sought out DANGEROUS ADVENTURES for EXCITEMENT.



Ultimately, though, Tony was WASTING his LIFE and his POTENTIAL in a MEANINGLESS pursuit of PLEASURE. He needed a DIRECTION for his LIFE.



Then a terrible ACCIDENT turned Tony's life UPSIDE DOWN. The BRAKES failed in his PARENTS' car and they HURTLED to a FIERY DEATH.



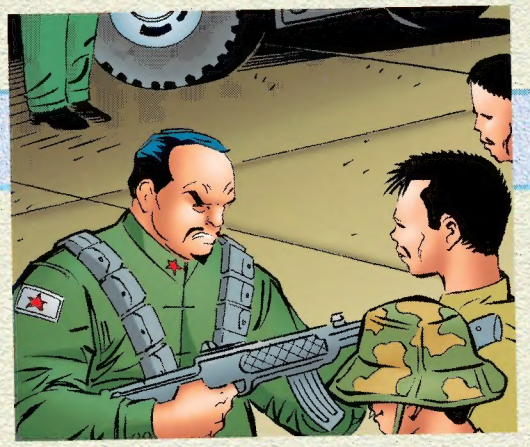
Tony found himself OWNER and C. E. O. of one of America's LEADING companies. But NOW his LIFE had PURPOSE. Through his INVENTIONS Tony Stark turned the company into the world's leading INNOVATOR in ELECTRONICS.



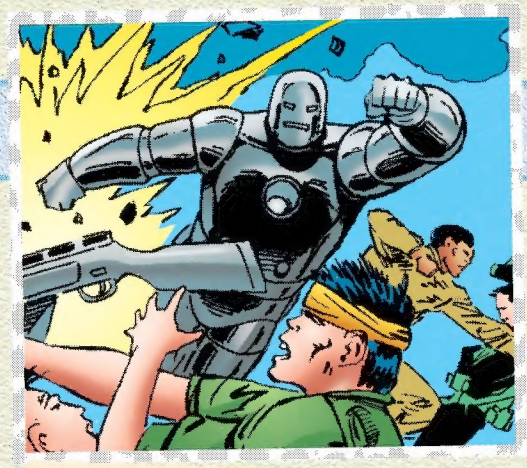
His PERSONAL life also finally gained STABILITY when he became ENGAGED to the beautiful socialite JOANNA NIVENA. But they would PART after a TRIP to Asia CHANGED his life FOREVER.



But Stark felt there was still something MISSING from his life. Not knowing quite WHAT he was looking for, Tony impulsively traveled to SOUTHEAST ASIA to visit his plant there.



Soon Stark fell VICTIM to a terrorist BOMB. Deadly SHRAPNEL lodged in his body, moving RELENTLESSLY towards his HEART. The ruthless warlord WONG CHU demanded his PRISONER create a mighty WEAPON for him before he DIED.



Aided by fellow CAPTIVE Professor HO YINSEN, Stark created an iron BATTLESUIT that both kept his HEART beating and AMPLIFIED his STRENGTH. Aided by Marine pilot JIM RHODES, the invincible IRON MAN fought his way to SAFETY.



At last Tony had found his TRUE vocation. As IRON MAN he not only became one of AMERICA's greatest CRIME-FIGHTERS, but he also was a FOUNDING MEMBER of the mighty AVENGERS.

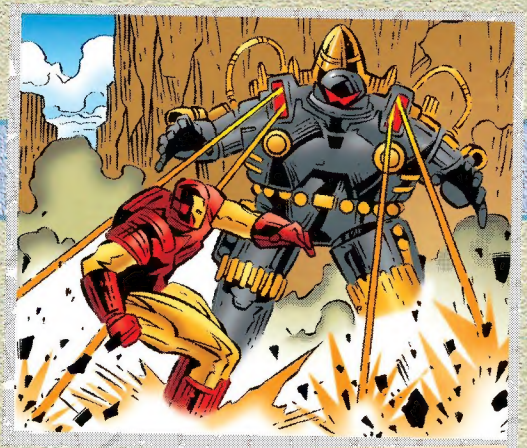


Stark was also HEAVILY involved in the EARLY days of the security agency SHIELD, designing its HIGH TECH equipment and even helping to select NICK FURY as agency DIRECTOR.





This was merely a STEPPING STONE. Stark RECLAIMED his FORTUNE from the newly DECEASED Stane and created California-based STARK ENTERPRISES, a new worldwide research and development COLOSSUS that DWARFED his previous achievements.



Learning that his armor's DESIGNS had been STOLEN, Iron Man waged the ARMOR WARS to DESTROY his rivals' suits. The WORLD believes FIREPOWER killed the ORIGINAL Iron Man, but Stark SURVIVED to become the "NEW" Iron Man.

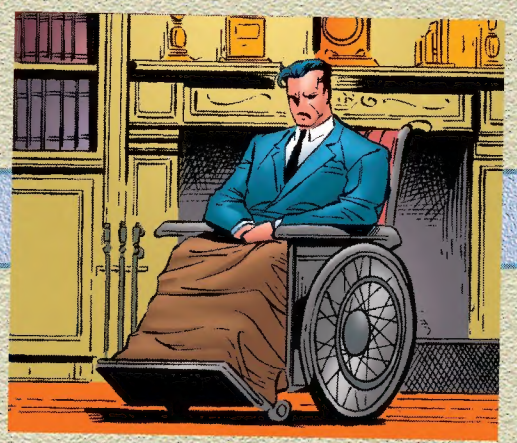
Within LESS than a DECADE, Tony Stark had transformed his father's company into STARK INTERNATIONAL, with branches throughout AMERICA and the WORLD. Having ABANDONED munitions, Stark had turned S. I. into the LEADING developer of ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY on the PLANET.



Then, SUDDENLY, Stark LOST everything. Due to the machinations of munitions dealer OBADIAH STANE, Stark rapidly DETERIORATED into an ALCOHOLIC living on the STREETS. Meanwhile, his business EMPIRE and FORTUNE fell into STANE's hands.



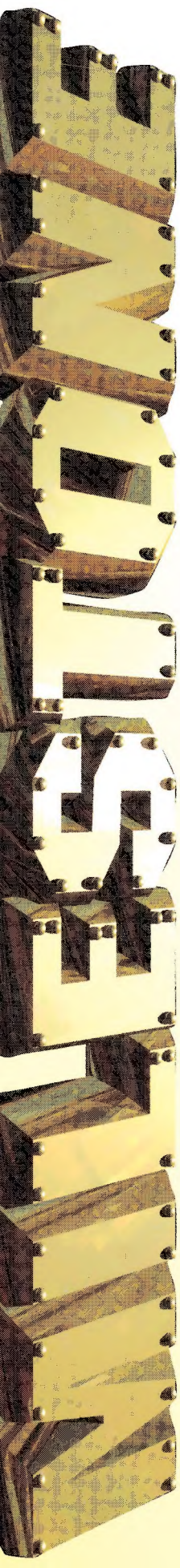
The WORLD was AMAZED when a newly SOBER Stark co-founded a new California electronics firm, CIRCUITS MAXIMUS, with his friend RHODES and the scientists MORLEY and CLYTEMNESTRA ERWIN.



Although his HEART had long ago been REPAIRED, his HEALTH continued to PLAGUE Stark. He was SHOT by ex-girlfriend KATHY DARE and even once went into SUSPENDED ANIMATION while undergoing a CURE. But Stark ALWAYS bounced BACK.



But finally STARK fell VICTIM to the BRAINWASHING of the AVENGERS' foe KANG THE CONQUEROR. Stark FOUGHT his fellow AVENGERS until he finally LOST his own LIFE. His COMPANY was SOLD and his YOUNGER SELF, brought from the PAST, took his PLACE as IRON MAN.





TALES OF SUSPENSE 39

Tony Stark is wounded and captured in Southeast Asia. He creates the original gray Iron Man battle suit that keeps his injured heart beating and defeats his captor Wong Chu.



TALES OF SUSPENSE 40

Iron Man, having painted his armor gold, begins his crimefighting career in New York.



TALES OF SUSPENSE 45

HAPPY HOGAN and PEPPER POTTS make their debuts as Iron Man first battles JACK FROST (later known as the Blizzard).



TALES OF SUSPENSE 46

Iron Man combats the original CRIMSON DYNAMO.



TALES OF SUSPENSE 47

Iron Man first battles the mysterious MELTER.



TALES OF SUSPENSE 48

Iron Man creates the first streamlined red and gold version of his armor.



TALES OF SUSPENSE 50

Iron Man first clashes with his archfoe, THE MANDARIN.



TALES OF SUSPENSE 52

THE BLACK WIDOW makes her first appearance.



TALES OF SUSPENSE 56

Iron Man first fights THE UNICORN.



TALES OF SUSPENSE 57

Iron Man fiirst duels HAWKEYE, who meets and teams up with THE BLACK WIDOW.



TALES OF SUSPENSE 59

The criminal BLACK KNIGHT first battles Iron Man.



TALES OF SUSPENSE 62

Iron Man redesigns his helmet again to remove the visible rivets.



TALES OF SUSPENSE 68

Tony's cousin MORGAN STARK makes his first appearance.



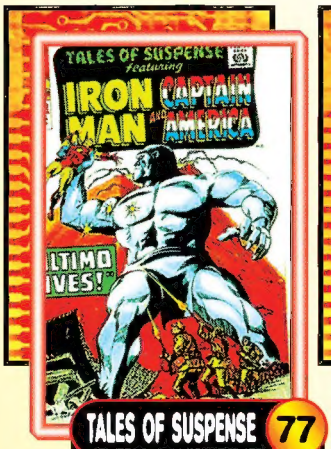
TALES OF SUSPENSE 70

ISSUES 69-71: Iron Man first engages in combat with the original TITANIUM MAN.



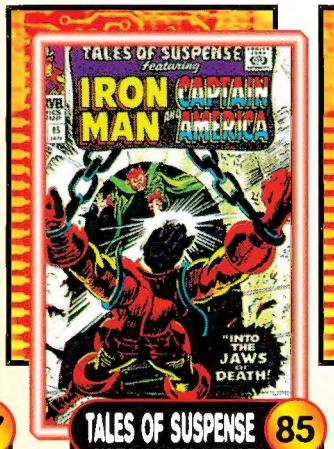
TALES OF SUSPENSE 75

ISSUES 74-75: HAPPY HOGAN first transforms into THE FREAK.



TALES OF SUSPENSE 77

ISSUES 76-78: ULTIMO first rises to challenge Iron Man.



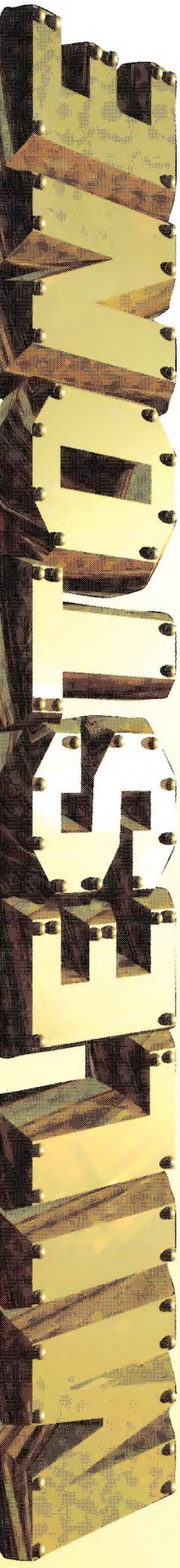
TALES OF SUSPENSE 85

ISSUES 84-86: HAPPY HOGAN becomes the first subsititute Iron Man.



TALES OF SUSPENSE 95

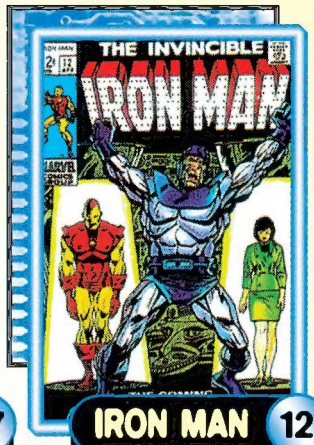
JASPER SITWELL becomes S.H.I.E.L.D. liaison to STARK INDUSTRIES.





TALES OF SUSPENSE 97

WHIPLASH (later known as BLACKLASH) first attacks Iron Man; WHITNEY FROST (MADAME MASQUE) makes her debut as Maggia chieftain "BIG M."



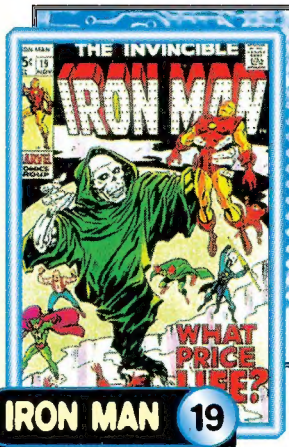
IRON MAN 12

The premiere appearances of THE CONTROLLER and girlfriend JANICE CORD.



IRON MAN 17

WHITNEY FROST first appears as MADAME MASQUE, working for MORDECAI MIDAS in his debut.



IRON MAN 19

DR. JOSE SANTINI repairs Tony Stark's injured heart with synthetic tissue.



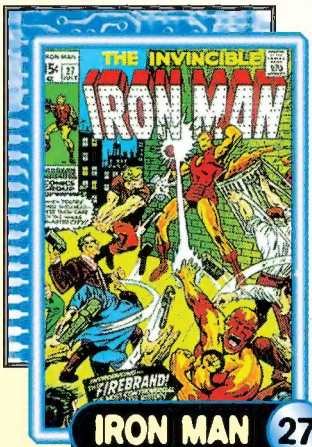
IRON MAN 21

Tony Stark first quits his Iron Man identity, EDDIE MARCH becomes the substitute Iron Man, and ALEX NIVEN first appears as the third CRIMSON DYNAMO.



IRON MAN 22

The death of JANICE CORD at the hands of the TITANIUM MAN.



IRON MAN 27

FIREBRAND first challenges Iron Man.



IRON MAN 28

Tony's first love, MEREDITH McCALL, first appears in his present as does Tony's father HOWARD in flashback.



IRON MAN 31

Tony Stark first meets KEVIN O'BRIEN, the future original GUARDSMAN.



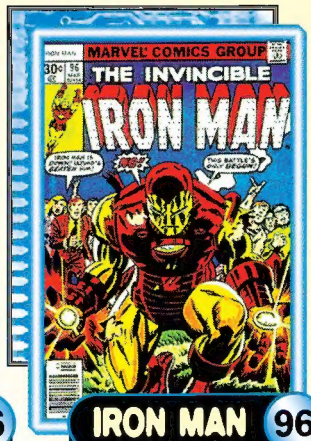
IRON MAN 33

The original SPYMASTER begins his assault on Tony Stark's business empire.



IRON MAN 46

MARIANNE RODGERS enters Tony Stark's life.



IRON MAN 96

ISSUES 96-97: KEVIN O'BRIEN'S brother MICHAEL becomes the new GUARDSMAN.



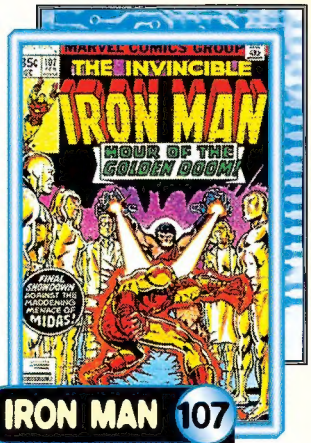
IRON MAN 102

ISSUES 101-102: Debut of the DREADKNIGHT.



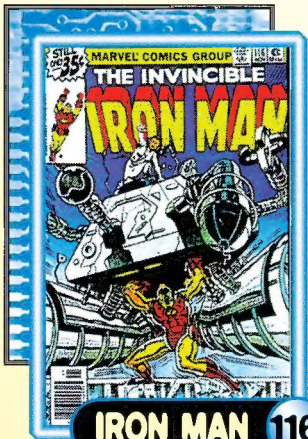
IRON MAN 103

Iron Man first encounters THE JACK OF HEARTS while MIDAS stages the first takeover of STARK INDUSTRIES.



IRON MAN 107

MARIANNE RODGERS turns MIDAS into a mental vegetable, clearing the way for Tony Stark to reclaim control of his company.



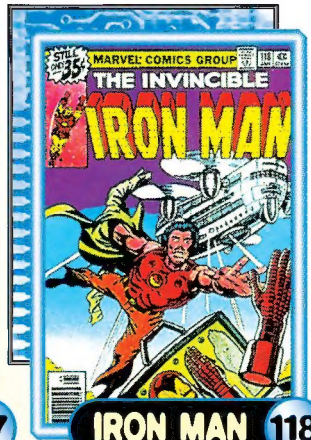
IRON MAN 116

COUNT NEFARIA dies in combat with Iron Man, leading to his breakup with MADAME MASQUE and her descent into madness.



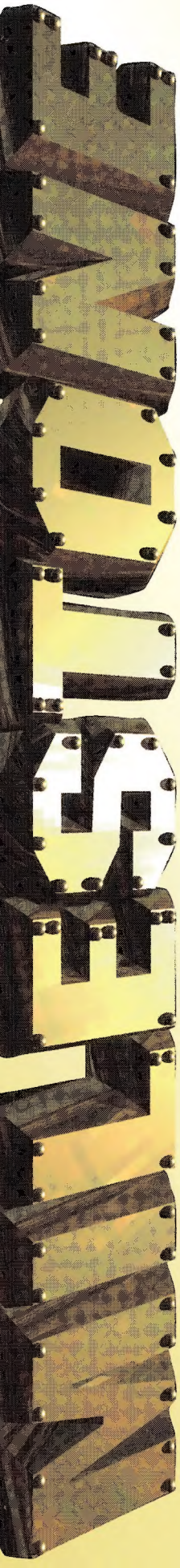
IRON MAN 117

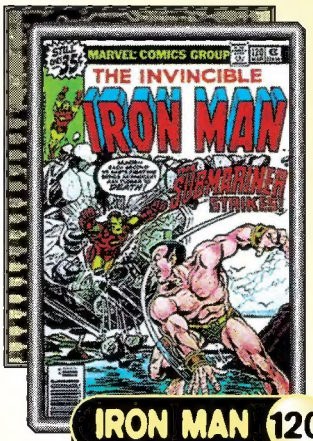
BETHANY CABE makes her entrance into Tony Stark's world.



IRON MAN 118

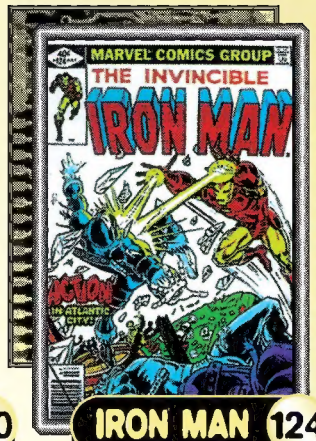
The debut of Stark's secretary supreme MRS. BAMBI BLISS ARBOGAST.





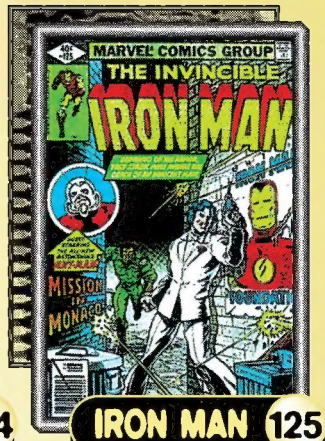
IRON MAN 120

Enter Tony Stark's friend and pilot JAMES RHODES and his unscrupulous business archrival JUSTIN HAMMER.



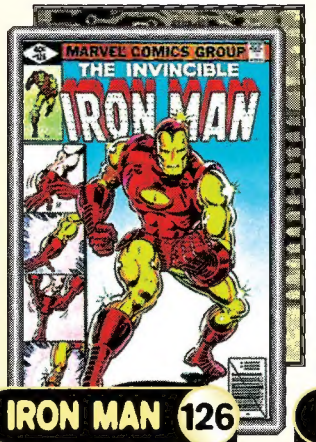
IRON MAN 124

Taking remote control of his armor, JUSTIN HAMMER forces Iron Man to kill the Carnelian Ambassador, thereby framing him for murder.



IRON MAN 125

SCOTT LANG, the second ANT-MAN, becomes Tony Stark's ally as he goes into action against HAMMER without his armor.



IRON MAN 126

Tony Stark first encounters JUSTIN HAMMER.



IRON MAN 128

Tony Stark first succeeds in overcoming his alcoholism.



IRON MAN 139

BETHANY CABE reveals she knows Tony is Iron Man.



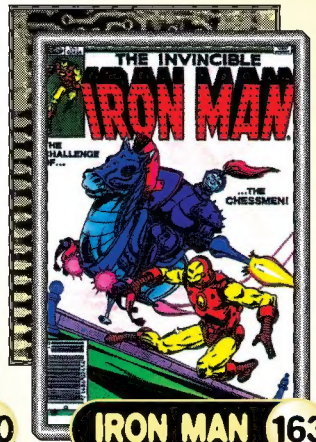
IRON MAN 143

Iron Man first encounters SUNTURION.



IRON MAN 150

Iron Man and DOCTOR DOOM are transported to KING ARTHUR's CAMELOT.



IRON MAN 163

The introduction of OBADIAH STANE, INDRIES MOOMJI, and THE CHESSMEN.



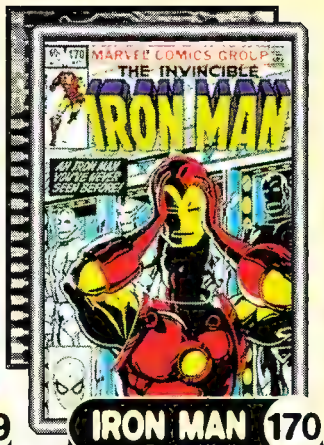
IRON MAN 167

INDRIES MOOMJI rejects Tony's love, and emotionally shattered, he starts drinking again.



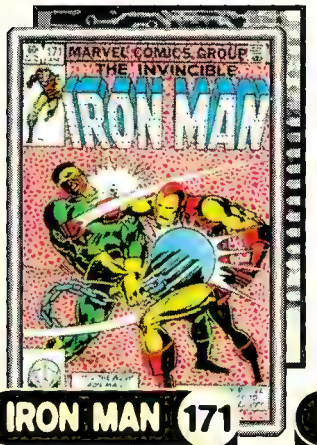
IRON MAN 169

Iron Man reveals his true identiy to JAMES RHODES.



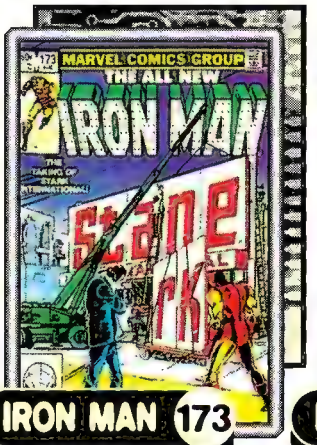
IRON MAN 170

JAMES RHODES first goes into action as Iron Man, and MORLEY ERWIN first appears.



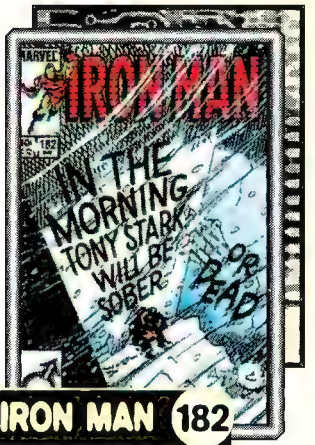
IRON MAN 171

Morley's sister CLYTEMNESTRA ERWIN debuts.



IRON MAN 173

OBADIAH STANE takes over Stark International, renaming it Stane International.



IRON MAN 182

Tony Stark regains his sobriety after his homeless friend GRETL ANDERS gives birth and dies in his arms.



IRON MAN 188

Tony and his partners officially start their new Silicon Valley electronics business, CIRCUITS MAXIMUS.



IRON MAN 191

Tony reurns to armored action in a new battlesuit that resembles his original Iron Man armor.



IRON MAN 193

Tony Stark reveals to the West Coast Avengers that he is Iron Man.





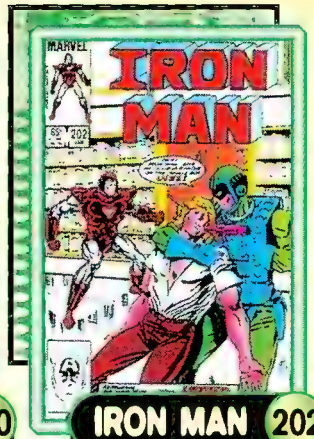
IRON MAN 199

OBADIAH STANE blows up CIRCUITS MAXIMUS, killing MORLEY ERWIN and temporarily crippling JAMES RHODES.



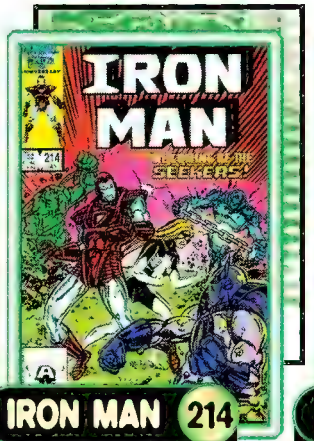
IRON MAN 200

Tony Stark returns to his role of Iron Man, donning a new red and white battlesuit, to combat OBADIAH STANE, in his own new IRON MONGER armor.



IRON MAN 202

Shrunken to miniature size by HENRY PYM, Iron Man finds his financial records in one of Stane's computers and reclaims his fortune.



IRON MAN 214

Construction of STARK ENTERPRISES begins.



IRON MAN 216

CLYTEMNESTRA ERWIN dies when her attempt to kill Iron Man backfires.



IRON MAN 217

The debut of Iron Man's undersea armor.



IRON MAN 219

Iron Man first battles the GHOST.



IRON MAN 223

RAE LaCOSTE enters Tony Stark's life, and FORCE reforms and becomes Iron Man's ally.



IRON MAN 225

The beginning of ARMOR WAR ONE.



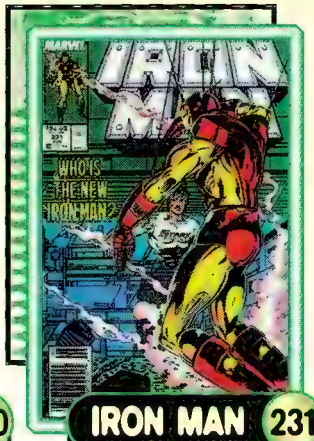
IRON MAN 229

In the course of the ARMOR WARS Iron Man inadvertently kills the GREMLIN, who had become the second TITANIUM MAN. As a result Iron MAN is expelled from the AVENGERS.



IRON MAN 230

Sent by the federal government to stop him, FIREPOWER apparently kills Iron MAN. In fact, Tony Stark survives, but he allows the world to think the original Iron Man is dead.



IRON MAN 231

Stark creates a new model battlesuit and goes into battle as the "new" Iron Man, soundly defeating FIREPOWER.



IRON MAN 233

Tony Stark first meets KATHY DARE, the woman who will try to kill him.



IRON MAN 242

KATHY DARE shoots Tony Stark, mortally wounding him.



IRON MAN 243

Doctors save Tony Stark's life, but the damage to his spine leaves him unable to walk.



IRON MAN 244

CARL WALKER, the former FORCE, becomes the latest substitute Iron Man until Stark returns to action in an Iron Man battlesuit that allows him to move his legs.



IRON MAN 248

Stark regains his mobility thanks to a biochip implanted in his spine by DR. ERICA SONDHEIM.



IRON MAN 250

Iron Man and DOCTOR DOOM are transported to an alternate future, where they encounter their 2093 A.D. counterparts.





IRON MAN 258

Malcontented scientist KEARSON DeWITT launches "ARMOR WARS II" against Iron Man.



IRON MAN 275

Climax of war waged by Iron Man against MANDARIN, FIN FANG FOOM, and his fellow DRAGON LORDS.



IRON MAN 282

ISSUES 281-282: Introduction of the MASTERS of SILENCE and debut of the WAR MACHINE armor.



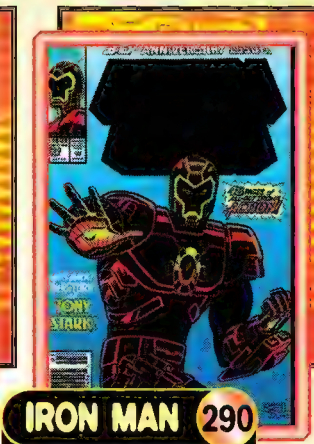
IRON MAN 284

ISSUES 283-284: Tony Stark fakes his own death, but actually goes into suspended animation while a cure is sought for his deteriorating nervous system. JAMES RHODES resumes the role of Iron Man, wearing the new WAR MACHINE armor.



IRON MAN 288

Tony Stark gains a new artificial nervous system for himself.



IRON MAN 290

Tony Stark resumes the role of Iron Man, creating and using a robotic suit that he controls cybernetically from his sickbed.



IRON MAN 291

Stark has a falling out with JAMES RHODES, who leaves to pursue his own superhero career as WAR MACHINE.



IRON MAN 300

Tony Stark dons a new suit of Iron Man armor to aid the newly assembled IRON LEGION, all the substitute Iron Men of the past, in battling the resurrected ULTIMO.



IRON MAN 310

ISSUES 310-312: Iron Man, WAR MACHINE, and FORCE WORKS combat the MANDARIN, who finally learns Iron Man's true identity.



IRON MAN 317

Wearing the CRIIMSON DYNAMO's armor, Iron Man fights his final battle against the original TITANIUM MAN, who dies in combat.



IRON MAN 325

The 19-year-old Tony Stark from an alternate timeline-first dons the armor of Iron Man to battle the adult Stark, who has fallen completely under KANG THE CONQUEROR's control.



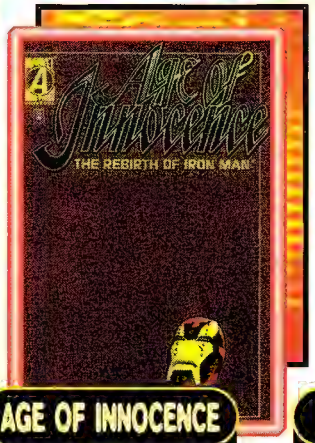
AVENGERS TIMESLIDE

In the battle with his older self, young Tony Stark suffers a critical heart injury.



AVENGERS 395

Tony Stark sacrifices his life to save the Avengers and Earth from Kang's temporal transposer



AGE OF INNOCENCE

Young Tony Stark recovers from a heart operation.



IRON MAN 326

Young Tony Stark registers at Columbia University and remeets his first girlfirfriend, Meredith McCall Alden, now a teacher.



IRON MAN 329

With the original Tony Stark dead, Stark Enterprises is taken over by Fujikawa International.



IRON MAN 330

The young Iron Man battles his cousin Morgan and his operatives, THE STOCKPILE.



ONSLAUGHT: MARVEL UNIVERSE

Iron Man, along with the Avengers and Fantastic Four, disappear while battling ONSLAUGHT.

ARMORS

THE ORIGINAL GREY ARMOR



What was most amazing about Iron Man's original armor was that it was, in effect, made from spare parts. Imprisoned by their captor Wong Chu in a workshop equipped with high technology by the Mandarin, Tony Stark and Professor Ho Yinsen constructed a heavy, bulky battlesuit from ordinary iron. Its most important feature was the pacemaker that kept Stark's injured heart beating. The internal powered exoskeleton amplified Stark's strength to superhuman levels. Since they were abundantly supplied to him, Stark used transistors, miniaturized components that were the state of the art in the 1960's, throughout the suit. The most advanced feature was its offensive weaponry, a proton beam generator, which, however had an effective range of only several yards. Stark could recharge the armor's systems simply by plugging a cable from the suit into a wall outlet. With no time to spend on decoration, they left it a dull grey in color.

Interestingly, when first resuming his role of Iron Man after a severe bout of alcoholism, Stark initially used a makeshift battlesuit closely resembling this original model.

FIRST APPEARANCE: **TALES OF SUSPENSE #39**

THE GOLDEN ARMOR



Upon returning to civilization from his jungle captivity, Tony Stark quickly devised a form-fitting chestplate containing the all-important pacemaker that could be worn unnoticeably beneath ordinary clothing, thereby enabling him to appear in public as Stark once more. Having decided to continue his role as Iron Man back in the States to provide security for Stark Industries, Stark constructed new, lightweight armor made from a flexible iron alloy, so that it could be disassembled, collapsed, and carried within his attache case. To enhance Iron Man's public image, Stark painted the new armor a shining gold color. The suit was equipped with both boot jets enabling flight and jet skates, and could project a searchlight from the chestplate.

FIRST APPEARANCE: **TALES OF SUSPENSE #40**

THE PROTO-CLASSIC ARMOR



Despite its lighter weight, the second suit was still too bulky and clumsy. Hence, Stark radically redesigned the armor into an even lighter, form-fitting suit. This was the first version of the armor with Iron Man's trademark weapon, his repulsor rays fired from the palms of his gauntlets. This was also the first suit to be painted red and gold, the colors Stark would use for virtually all the armors that followed.

FIRST APPEARANCE:
TALES OF SUSPENSE #48

ARMORS

THE CLASSIC ARMOR



With this model Stark finally achieved the classic look for Iron Man's battlesuit. Having disposed of the dubious horns and rivets on the facemask, Stark gave the helmet its familiar modern look.

Over the following years Stark revamped the armor in many ways while retaining this basic outer design. First, he fully replaced the outmoded transistors with state of the art microscopic integrated circuitry. In need of better energy sources, Stark installed a thermocouple that could draw electrical power from extremes of heat and cold. New weaponry included projectors for laser beams, tractor beams, and protective force fields. Stark removed the pacemaker after his heart was rebuilt with synthetic tissue, but had to use new versions until his body fully accepted the newly reconstructed organ. Ultimately, he installed a cybernetic system enabling him to control his armor's systems through mental commands picked up by computers in his helmet. This would remain a feature in all new suits from then onward.

FIRST APPEARANCE: **TALES OF SUSPENSE #66**



THE SPACE ARMOR

Eventually Stark began designing Iron Man battlesuits for specialized purposes. The first of these was his "Space Armor," which enabled him not only to propel himself from Earth into outer space, but also to survive in space for two entire days. Iron Man used short-range boot jets to launch himself into the higher atmosphere, and then activated his boots' nuclear thrusters, utilizing liquid oxygen as fuel, to rocket him into space. The armor not only contained two days' supply of air but also enough food and water for that amount of time. He could launch "exo-units," which served as long-range grapples, from his gauntlets. The downside was that the suit was heavy and bulky, much like Iron Man's original armor, and hence moved clumsily in normal gravity.

FIRST APPEARANCE: **IRON MAN #142**

ARMORS

THE STEALTH ARMOR

Next came the "Stealth Armor," also known as the "Low Observable" model, designed for missions in which Iron Man wanted to remain unseen and undetected. Jet-black in color, the suit contains a wave modifier, which bends radar waves around him so he cannot be detected by them, and microbaffles that muffle the sound of his boot jets. Unfortunately, specialized systems originally precluded any room for Iron Man's offensive weapons systems, such as his repulsor rays. Stark corrected this problem in the Mark II Stealth Armor he wore in Armor Wars I.



FIRST APPEARANCE:
IRON MAN #152

THE SILVER ARMOR

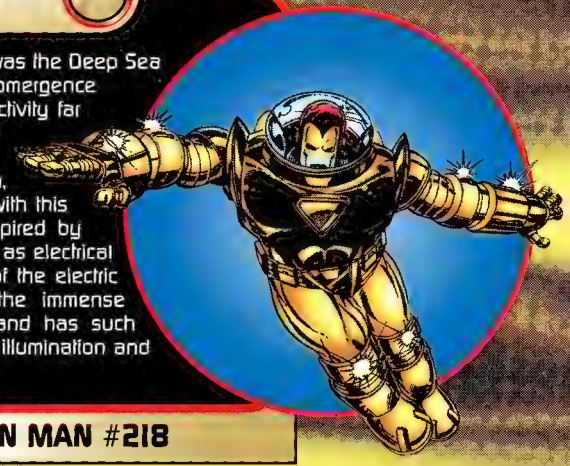


After falling victim to alcoholism, Stark turned over his role as Iron Man to James Rhodes. But after Rhodes was incapacitated by an attack by Obadiah Stane, the recovering Stark quickly put together his most advanced Iron Man battlesuit to date and went into action wearing it. Its most notable new feature was the "chameleon effect" that enabled Iron Man to blend into the background by projecting holograms of that background over the armor. Unfortunately, Stark had to drop it once he discovered its energy fields were adversely affecting his nervous system. More effective new features included his pulse bolt weaponry, his disruptor field, which could interfere with the workings of other electrical devices, a protective force field that he could sustain for six seconds, and a thermocouple that could absorb energy and enable him to redirect it against an opponent. Stark's attempt to substitute red and silver for the Golden Avenger's colors did not last, nor did the hooded shape of his new helmet.

FIRST APPEARANCE: **IRON MAN #200**

THE DEEP SEA ARMOR

The next specialized battlesuit was the Deep Sea Armor, also known as the Deep Submergence Model, designed for underwater activity far longer and deeper than the usual battlesuit could withstand. Newly energized by his return to health, Stark let his imagination run free with this suit, creating various systems inspired by the abilities of sea creatures, such as electrical discharge projectors (in imitation of the electric eel). The suit can withstand the immense pressures at lower sea depths and has such adaptations as halogen lamps for illumination and special aquatic propulsion jets.



FIRST APPEARANCE: **IRON MAN #218**

ARMORS

THE NEW RED & GOLD ARMOR



Following the destruction of his armor by Firepower during the first "Armor War," Tony Stark created a new battlesuit that dwarfed even Firepower's extraordinary capabilities. In outward appearance the new model harked back to Iron Man's traditional red and gold colors. However, in making the new armor look so different from the red and silver model, Stark was also hoping to convince the public that the "new" Iron Man was different than the one Firepower had supposedly slain: in actuality, "both" Iron Man were really the original, Stark himself.

Stark's new medical problems required substantial changes to his armor maintaining its new outward look. When he was shot by Kathy Dare, for a time Stark's legs were paralyzed; he installed servo-motors in the armor to allow him to move them. The implanted microchip that restored his mobility turned out to be a techno-organic parasite that attacked his nervous system. Hence, Stark began using a robotic Iron Man suit that he guided by cybernetic remote control. Eventually Stark developed an electro-mesh bodysuit that enabled him to control his nervous system, which he then wore inside his Iron Man armor.

FIRST APPEARANCE:
IRON MAN #231



THE NEW SPACE ARMOR

This is an upgraded version of the Space Armor and was used by Iron Man on his voyage to the Kree Galaxy with the Avengers during "Operation: Galactic Storm."

FIRST APPEARANCE:
IRON MAN #278

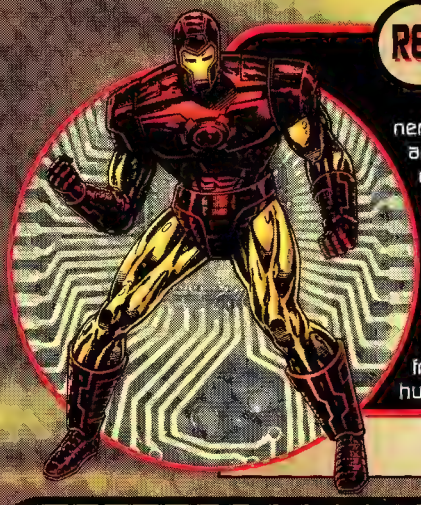
THE WAR MACHINE ARMOR



Although Stark invented and first wore the "Variable Threat Response Battle Suit," it was best known as the armor James Rhodes originally wore as War Machine. Designed for all-out warfare, this specialized armor is most notable for the various weaponry mounted on its shoulders and gauntlets, including a flamethrower, guns, and even a small missile launcher.

FIRST APPEARANCE:
IRON MAN #282

ARMORS



REMOTE-CONTROLLED ARMOR

After Stark received his new artificial nervous system, he was for a time bedridden, and again used a robotic Iron Man suit that he controlled through a system he dubbed the Neuromimetic Telepresence Unit. Stark controlled the suit by mental commands transmitted through a headset. The telepresence system not only enabled him to see, hear, and feel as if he were actually in the armor at the scene of the action, but also let him see and hear visual and audio frequencies beyond the reach of the unaided human senses.

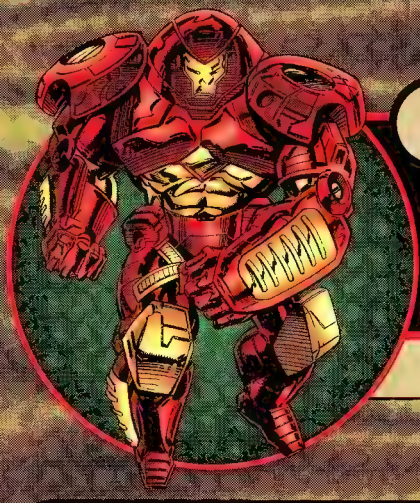
FIRST APPEARANCE:
IRON MAN #290

THE MODULAR ARMOR

Soon Stark had mastered his new nervous system sufficiently to allow him to go into action wearing an Iron Man battlesuit himself. He conceived his new suit along modular lines: it enabled him to attach special devices he might need in specific situations, and then detach them and replace them with others as circumstances changed.

FIRST APPEARANCE:
IRON MAN #300





THE HULKBUSTER ARMOR

His largest and most powerful battle armor to date, this model was specifically designed as "Anti-Hulk" armor. Not only does it afford considerable protection from even the Hulk's might, but the armor enables Iron Man to attain Hulk-level strength himself.

FIRST APPEARANCE:
IRON MAN #304

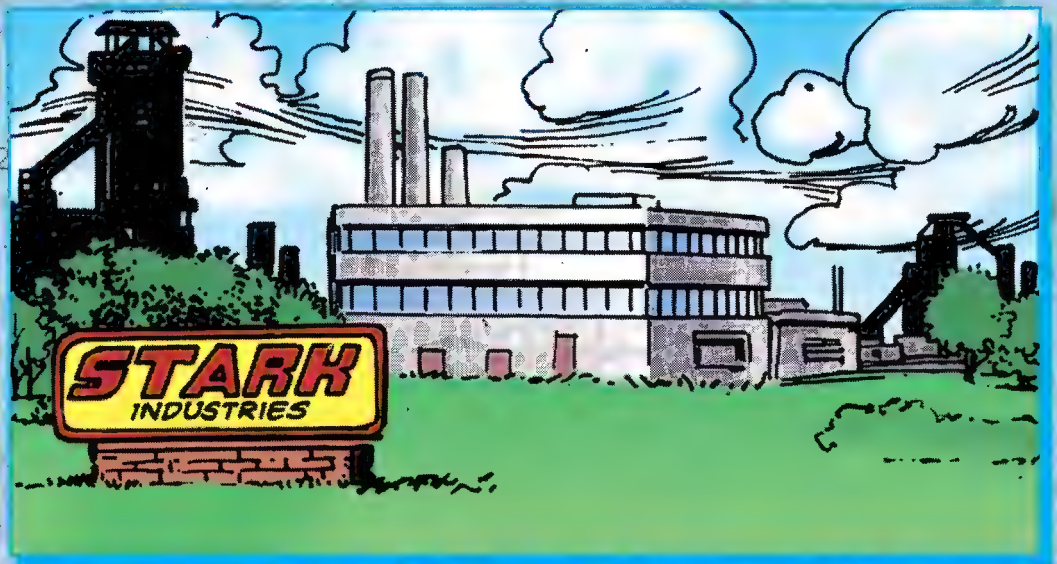
THE RETRO ARMOR

Finally, here is the armor worn by the teenage Tony Stark who has traveled to the Avengers' Earth from an alternate timeline. Understandably, it represents several steps backwards, because although young Tony has already familiarized himself with his adult counterpart's basic armor designs, it would still take the inexperienced teenager considerable time to master the many technological advances it took the adult Stark years to develop.

FIRST APPEARANCE:
IRON MAN #325



THE COMPANIES HE KEEPS

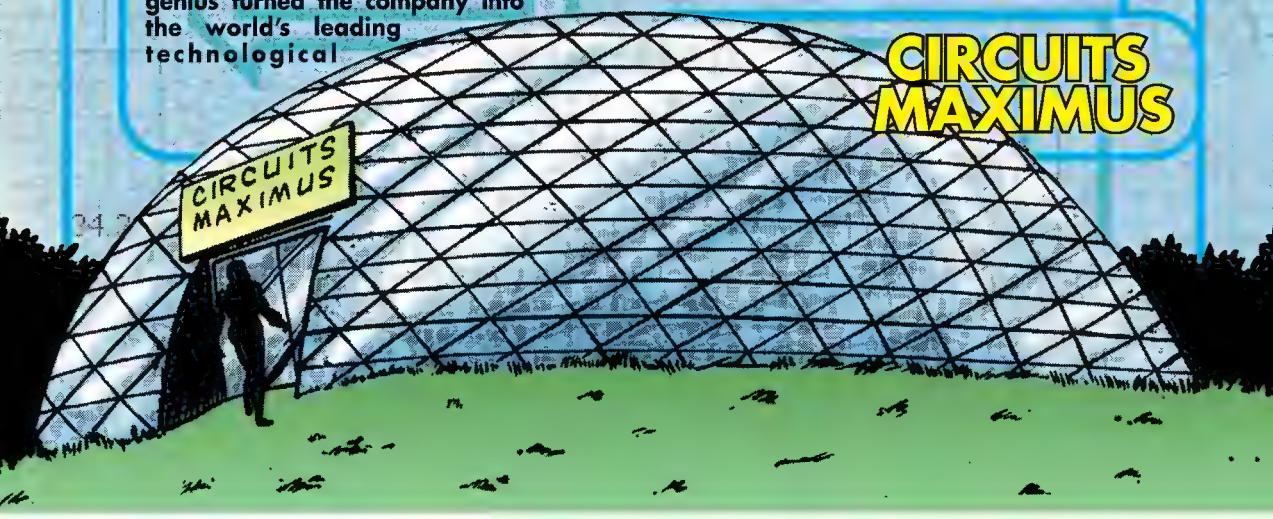


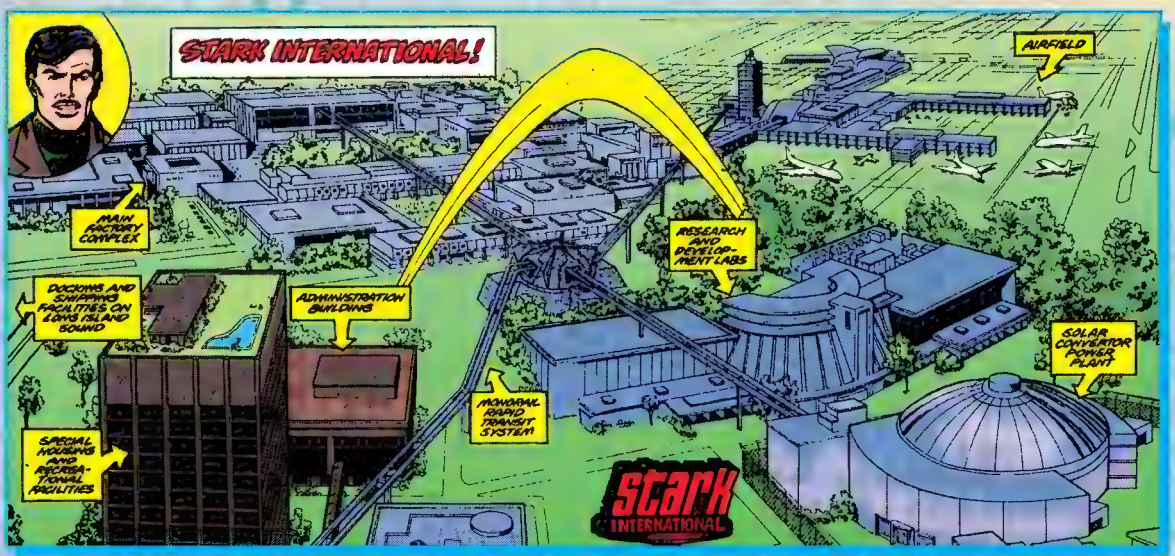
STARK INDUSTRIES

Tony's father, Howard Stark, was the founder of the original company, STARK INDUSTRIES, based in Long Island, New York. Although it was a small company, it was still one of America's leading electronics firms and was a pioneer in computer development. Eventually its main product became munitions for the United States government, which made Howard Stark a very rich man.

When Howard and his wife Maria died in an automobile accident, their young son Tony became Stark Industries' new owner and C.E.O. For moral reasons Tony eventually discontinued the production of munitions, and instead his creative genius turned the company into the world's leading technological research and development firm. Once its tremendous success led to the establishment of branches outside as well as inside the United States, Stark renamed his company STARK INTERNATIONAL.

While personal problems distracted Stark, his company fell into debt, enabling the arms merchant Obadiah Stane to stage a hostile takeover, renaming the company Stane International. Recovering from a severe bout with alcoholism, Stark joined Jim Rhodes and scientists Morley and Clytemnestra Erwin in founding CIRCUITS MAXIMUS, a small but brilliant electronics company in California's Silicon Valley.





STARK INTERNATIONAL

Stane blew up Circuits Maximus's headquarters shortly before his own death. But Stark soon reclaimed his fortune from Stane's control and used it to found STARK ENTERPRISES. Based in the Los Angeles area between Santa Monica and Malibu, S. E. quickly established branch offices around the country and the world. Stark Enterprises primarily functions as a think tank, in which Stark himself and his scientists devise new concepts in electronics, chemical research, and other areas that are then implemented by S.E.'s various subsidiaries. Among these companies absorbed into S.E. are Accutech Research and Development, Barstow Enterprises, Centrex, Pendyne, Inc., and Stane International, Stark's own original company. Thus the wheel came full circle: having lost his father's company, Tony Stark created an even greater one through which he then reclaimed Howard Stark's heritage.

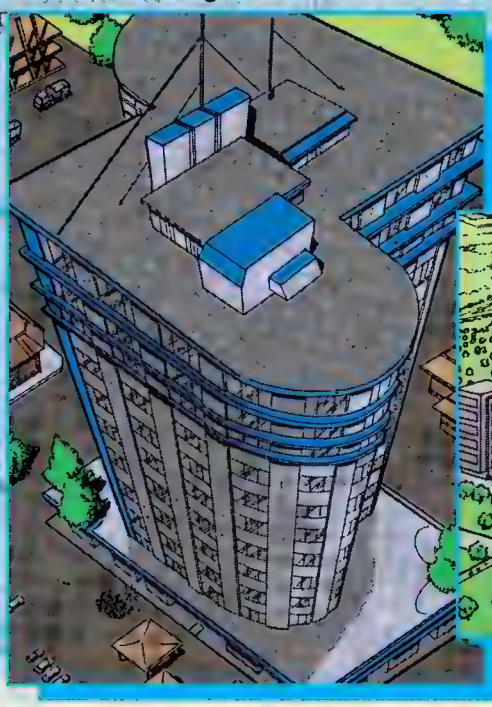
REFERENCES

STARK INDUSTRIES:
TALES OF SUSPENSE #41-IRON MAN #72

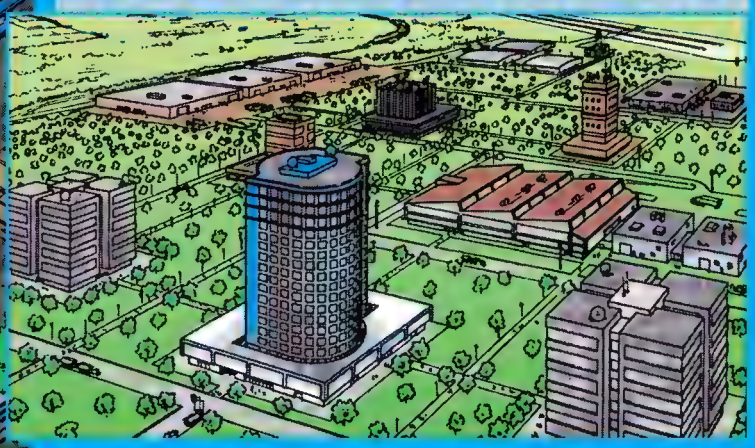
STARK INTERNATIONAL:
IRON MAN #73-172

CIRCUITS MAXIMUS:
IRON MAN #188-199

STARK ENTERPRISES:
IRON MAN #200-332



STARK ENTERPRISES



STARK'S STAFF



NAME: VIRGINIA "PEPPER" POTTS

CLASSIFICATION: EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE CEO

STATUS: LIVING

FIRST EMPLOYED: TALES OF SUSPENSE #45

232-3420-9064-3536



NAME: HAROLD JOSEPH "HAPPY" HOGAN

CLASSIFICATION: PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO C.E.O., CHAUFFEUR

STATUS: LIVING

FIRST EMPLOYED: TALES OF SUSPENSE #45



NAME: ABRAHAM KLEIN

CLASSIFICATION: DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING DIVISION

STATUS: DECEASED

FIRST EMPLOYED: IRON MAN #82



NAME: ANTON VANKO (a.k.a. CRIMSON DYNAMO I)

CLASSIFICATION: DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH, ENGINEERING DIVISION

STATUS: DECEASED

FIRST EMPLOYED: TALES OF SUSPENSE #46



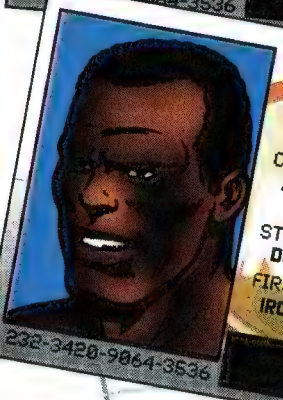
NAME: KRISSY LONGFELLOW (MADAME MASQUE I IN DISGUISE)

CLASSIFICATION: EXECUTIVE SECRETARY to the C.E.O.

STATUS: DECEASED

FIRST EMPLOYED: IRON MAN #91 (as Krissy)

232-3420-9064-3536



NAME: EDWARD "EDDIE" MARCH

CLASSIFICATION: ALTERNATE IRON MAN

STATUS: DECEASED

FIRST EMPLOYED: IRON MAN #21

232-3420-9064-3536



NAME: KEVIN O'BRIEN (a.k.a. GUARDSMAN I)

CLASSIFICATION: DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH, ENGINEERING DIVISION

STATUS: DECEASED

FIRST EMPLOYED: IRON MAN #82

232-3420-9064-3536

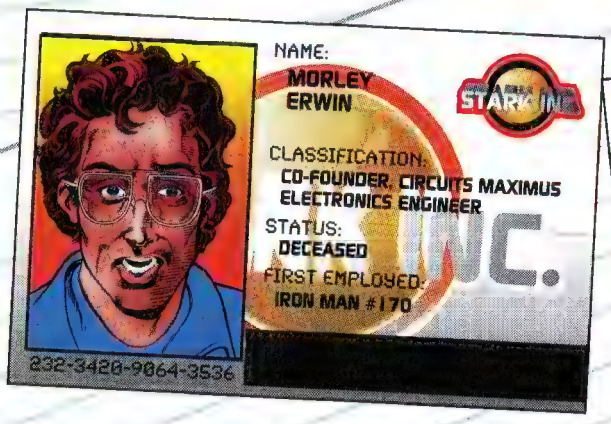
Anthony Stark's various companies have primarily served as tools through which he turned his inexhaustible stream of ideas for new technology into reality. Yet he could not do it alone. One of Stark's underrated talents was for finding and assembling around him an extraordinarily gifted and devoted roster of employees, the envy of all his competitors. Some, like Abe Zimmer and Erica Sondheim, were respected figures in their fields; he chose others like the Hogans and James Rhodes, and raised them from minor positions to roles of great responsibility.

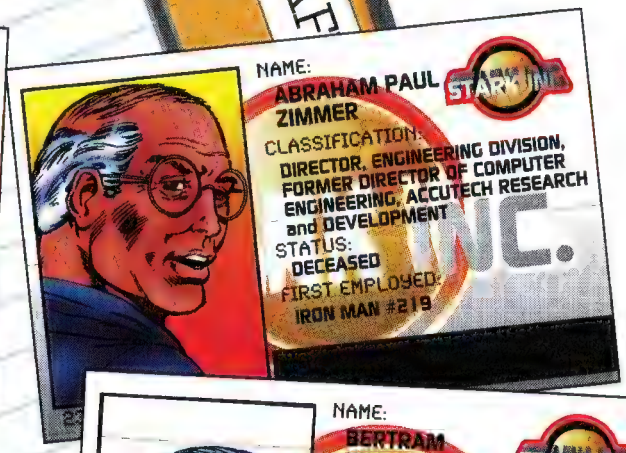
Stark did make mistakes at times. A disturbing number of Stark's associates, including Abe Klein, Clytemnestra Erwin, Marcy Pearson, and Bert Hindel, have betrayed him. Yet Stark has proved justified in trusting some former enemies and criminals with positions of responsibilty, including Anton Vanko, Scott Lang, Carl Walker, and Phillip Grant.

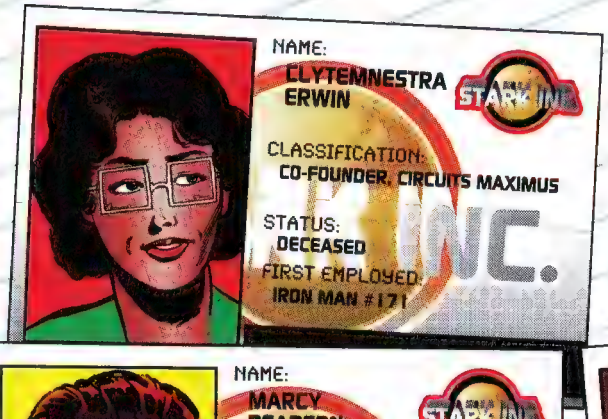
As head of America's most innovative technology corporation, Stark has long been a target for attack by criminals and foreign powers. Hence, many of his associates have repeatedly been endangered; some, including Morley Erwin and Abe Zimmer, have even been killed.

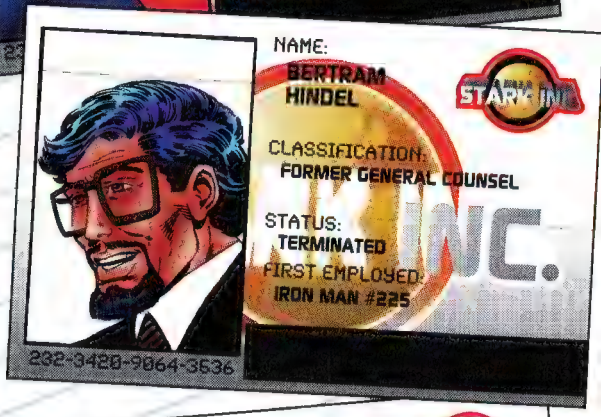
Nevertheless, what is most remarkable about Tony Stark's employees is the intense loyalty most of them have demonstrated to him over the years. They respected him not only for his creative genius but for his generosity and kindness. Stark counted several of his key employees, past and present, including Pepper and Happy Hogan, Bethany Cabe, and James Rhodes, among his closest friends and confidantes.


NAME:
BETHANY CAMILLA CABE
CLASSIFICATION:
SECURITY DIRECTOR
STATUS:
LIVING
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #117
NAME:
BAMBINA TERESA ARBOGAST
CLASSIFICATION:
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT to the C.E.O.
STATUS:
DECEASED
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #118
NAME:
VICTOR MARTINELLI
CLASSIFICATION:
SECURITY DIRECTOR
STATUS:
LIVING
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #132
232-3420-9064-3536
NAME:
YVETTE AVRIL
CLASSIFICATION:
VICE PRESIDENT of OPERATIONS (FORMERLY OF PARIS DIVISION)
STATUS:
DECEASED
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #119
232-3420-9064-3536
NAME:
ARTEMUS PITHINS
CLASSIFICATION:
FORMER DIRECTOR of PUBLIC RELATIONS
STATUS:
LIVING
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #137
NAME:
JAMES RUPPERT "RHODEY" RHODES
CLASSIFICATION:
FORMER VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS, STARK ENTERPRISES CO-FOUNDER, CIRCUITS MAXIMUS PILOT AND PERSONAL ASISTANT to the C.E.O.
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #120
232-3420-9064-3536
NAME:
CARL WALKER (a.k.a. CLAYTON WILSON, FORCE)
CLASSIFICATION:
ELECTRONICS ENGINEER, BARSTOW ELECTRONICS
STATUS:
LIVING
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #140
232-3420-9064-3536
NAME:
SCOTT LANG (a.k.a. ANT-MAN II)
CLASSIFICATION:
ELECTRONICS ENGINEER
STATUS:
LIVING
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #125
232-3420-9064-3536
NAME:
ERICA FRIEDERIKA SONDHEIM
CLASSIFICATION:
DIRECTOR, MEDICAL DIVISION
STATUS:
DECEASED
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #131
232-3420-9064-3536


NAME:
MORLEY ERWIN
STARK INC.
CLASSIFICATION:
CO-FOUNDER, CIRCUITS MAXIMUS ELECTRONICS ENGINEER
STATUS:
DECEASED
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #170
232-3420-9064-3536

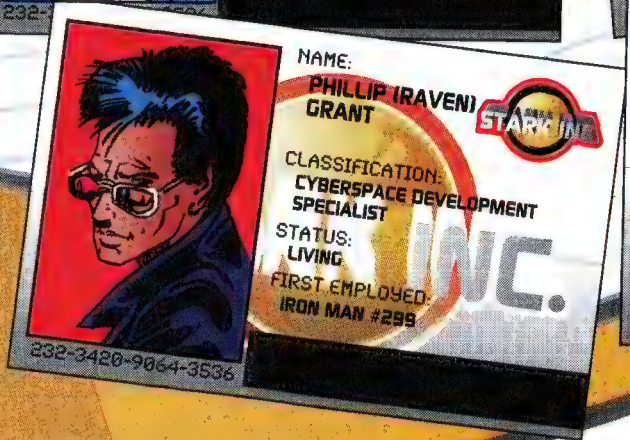

NAME:
ABRAHAM PAUL ZIMMER
STARK INC.
CLASSIFICATION:
DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING DIVISION, FORMER DIRECTOR OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING, ACCUTECH RESEARCH and DEVELOPMENT
STATUS:
DECEASED
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #219


NAME:
CLYTEMNESTRA ERWIN
STARK INC.
CLASSIFICATION:
CO-FOUNDER, CIRCUITS MAXIMUS
STATUS:
DECEASED
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #171


NAME:
BERTRAM HINDEL
STARK INC.
CLASSIFICATION:
FORMER GENERAL COUNSEL
STATUS:
TERMINATED
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #225
232-3420-9064-3536


NAME:
MARCY PEARSON
STARK INC.
CLASSIFICATION:
FORMER VICE PRESIDENT, FORMER DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
STATUS:
TERMINATED
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #217

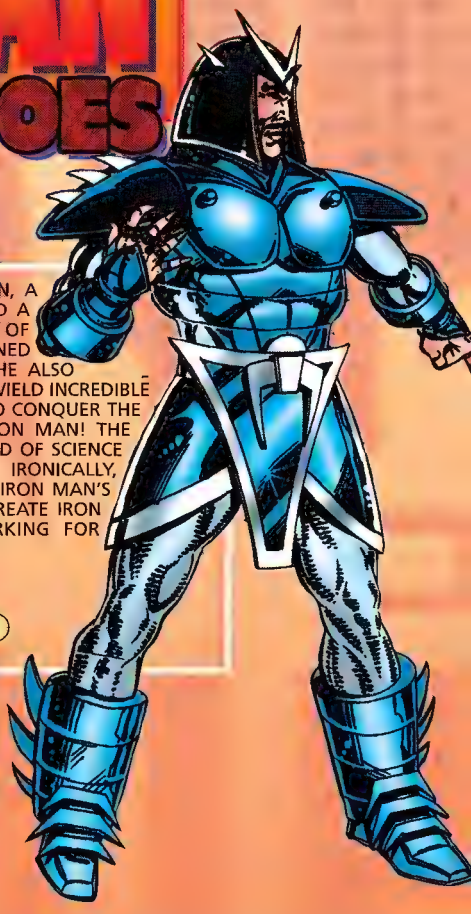

NAME:
FELIX RICARDO ALVAREZ
STARK INC.
CLASSIFICATION:
VICE PRESIDENT and CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
STATUS:
LIVING
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #238


NAME:
PHILLIP (RAVEN) GRANT
STARK INC.
CLASSIFICATION:
CYBERSPACE DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST
STATUS:
LIVING
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #299
232-3420-9064-3536


NAME:
RODERICK WITHERS
STARK INC.
CLASSIFICATION:
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
STATUS:
LIVING
FIRST EMPLOYED:
IRON MAN #249
232-3420-9064-3536

IRON MAN GREATEST FOES

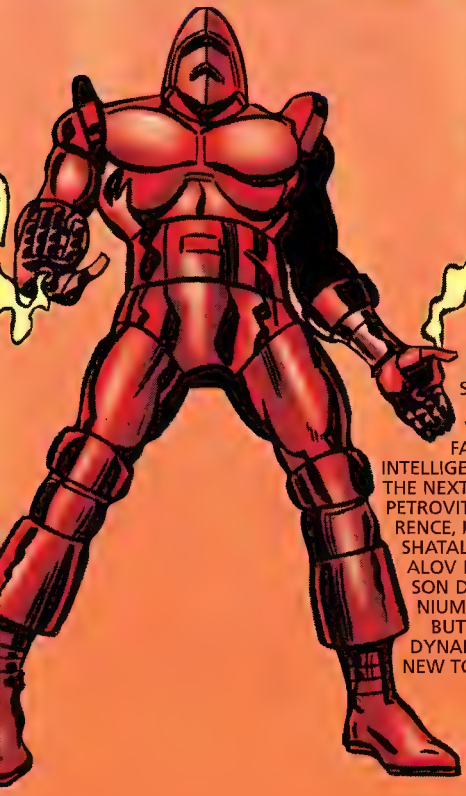
MANDARIN



IRON MAN'S GREATEST ENEMY IS THE MANDARIN, A FORMER CHINESE GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL WHO DISCOVERED A CRASHED SPACESHIP FROM THE ALIEN RACE OF MAKLUANS! FROM STUDYING THE SHIP, THE MANDARIN GAINED SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE FAR IN ADVANCE OF EARTH'S! HE ALSO FOUND TEN POWER RINGS IN THE SHIP THAT ENABLE HIM TO WIELD INCREDIBLE POWERS! EVER SINCE THEN, THE MANDARIN HAS TRIED TO CONQUER THE WORLD, ONLY TO BE THWARTED TIME AND AGAIN BY IRON MAN! THE MANDARIN ALSO DECIDED RECENTLY TO USE MAGIC INSTEAD OF SCIENCE AND TO THROW CIVILIZATION BACK INTO THE DARK AGES! IRONICALLY, THE MANDARIN DOES NOT REALIZE HE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR IRON MAN'S EXISTENCE! WHEN WONG CHU FORCED TONY STARK TO CREATE IRON MAN'S ARMOR YEARS AGO, THE WARLORD WAS WORKING FOR THE MANDARIN!

FIRST APPEARANCE: TALES OF SUSPENSE #50

CRIMSON DYNAMO



IRON MAN'S OLDEST ARMORED ADVERSARY HAS NOT ONE FACE BEHIND HIS HELMET BUT SIX! HALF A DOZEN MEN HAVE SO FAR WORN THE BATTLESUIT OF THE CRIMSON DYNAMO!

THE FIRST OF THEM WAS ANTON VANKO, THE SOVIET SCIENTIST WHO INVENTED THE ORIGINAL CRIMSON DYNAMO BATTLESUIT. NOT ONLY DID IT GIVE THE WEARER SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH AND THE ABILITY TO FLY, BUT IT COULD ALSO GENERATE AND DISCHARGE POWERFUL BOLTS OF ELECTRICITY. THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT SENT VANKO TO BATTLE IRON MAN. BUT WHEN THE GOLDEN AVENGER SHOWED THE DYNAMO THAT THE SOVIETS PLANNED TO ELIMINATE HIM, TOO, VANKO DEFECTED AND BECAME ONE OF STARK'S OWN SCIENTISTS!

THE SOVIETS RETALIATED BY DISPATCHING THEIR TOP AGENT, THE BLACK WIDOW, AND HER ASSOCIATE, BORIS TURGENEV, WHO STOLE VANKO'S BATTLESUIT AND BECAME THE SECOND CRIMSON DYNAMO. VANKO HEROICALLY SACRIFICED HIS OWN LIFE IN KILLING HIM.

VANKO'S FORMER ASSISTANT, ALEX NEVSKY, CREATED AN IMPROVED VERSION OF VANKO'S BATTLESUIT AND BECAME THE THIRD CRIMSON DYNAMO. FAILING TO DEFEAT IRON MAN, THE THIRD DYNAMO WAS ASSASSINATED BY SOVIET INTELLIGENCE, THE K. G. B..

THE NEXT THREE MEN TO WEAR THE DYNAMO ARMOR WERE ALL K. G. B. OPERATIVES: YURI PETROVITCH, DIMITRI BUKHARIN, AND FINALLY VALENTIN SHATALOV. IN A FREAK OCCURRENCE, IRON MAN AND THE SIXTH DYNAMO TEMPORARILY EXCHANGED BODIES, AND THUS SHATALOV LEARNED THAT IRON MAN WAS TONY STARK. FOR REASONS OF HIS OWN, SHATALOV KEPT STARK'S SECRET, AND AFTER THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT FELL, THE NEW CRIMSON DYNAMO EVEN AIDED IRON MAN AND THE BLACK WIDOW IN DEFEATING THE TITANIUM MAN, WHO HAD GONE ROGUE.

BUT THE NEW RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT FIRED SHATALOV FROM HIS ROLE AS CRIMSON DYNAMO. SOONER OR LATER, THOUGH, THE RUSSIANS ARE SURE TO CHOOSE SOMEONE NEW TO BECOME A SEVENTH CRIMSON DYNAMO!

FIRST APPEARANCES: I: TALES OF SUSPENSE #46, II: TALES OF SUSPENSE #52, III: (AS NIVEN) IRON MAN #15, (AS DYNAMO) IRON MAN #21, IV: CHAMPIONS #8, V: IRON MAN #109, VI: IRON MAN #255

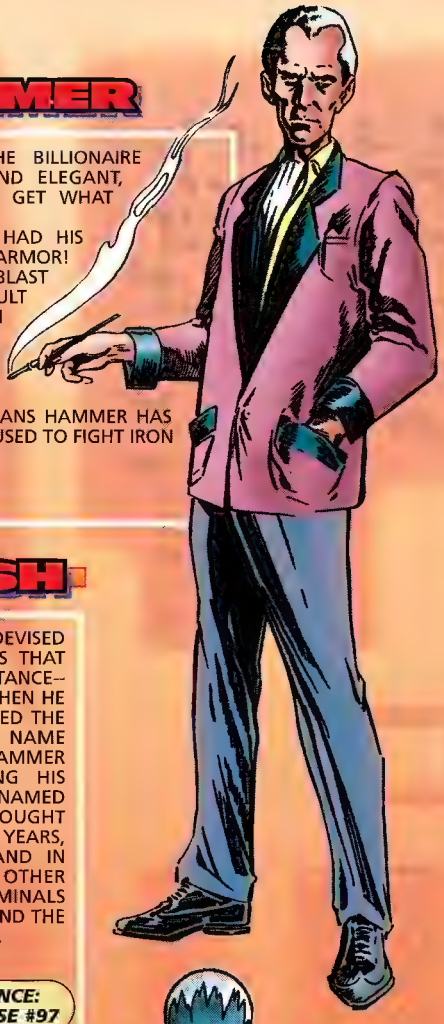
JUSTIN HAMMER

THE BUSINESS RIVAL WHO HAS PLAGUED TONY STARK THE LONGEST IS THE BILLIONAIRE MUNITIONS MAKER JUSTIN HAMMER! THOUGH HE APPEARS REFINED AND ELEGANT, HAMMER IS RUTHLESS IN USING WHATEVER CORRUPT MEANS IT TAKES TO GET WHAT HE WANTS!

HAMMER DELIVERED HIS GREATEST BLOW TO TONY STARK WHEN HE HAD HIS SCIENTISTS DEVELOP A WAY TO OVERRIDE THE CONTROL SYSTEMS OF IRON MAN'S ARMOR! THROUGH REMOTE CONTROL HAMMER FORCED IRON MAN TO FIRE A REPULSOR BLAST THAT KILLED AN AMBASSADOR FROM THE SMALL NATION OF CARNELIA! AS A RESULT THE GOVERNMENT IMPOUNDED IRON MAN'S ARMOR! ALTHOUGH IRON MAN FINALLY SUCCEEDED IN CLEARING HIS NAME, HE COULD NOT PROVE HAMMER WAS THE MASTERMIND BEHIND IT ALL!

HAMMER WILL HAVE SPECIAL WEAPONRY AND BATTLESUITS BUILT FOR COSTUMED CRIMINALS IN EXCHANGE FOR THEIR SERVICES AS MERCENARIES AND A PERCENTAGE OF THE WEALTH THEY STEAL! BY THIS MEANS HAMMER HAS BECOME THE LEADER OF A SMALL ARMY OF SUPER-VILLAINS HE HAS REPEATEDLY USED TO FIGHT IRON MAN!

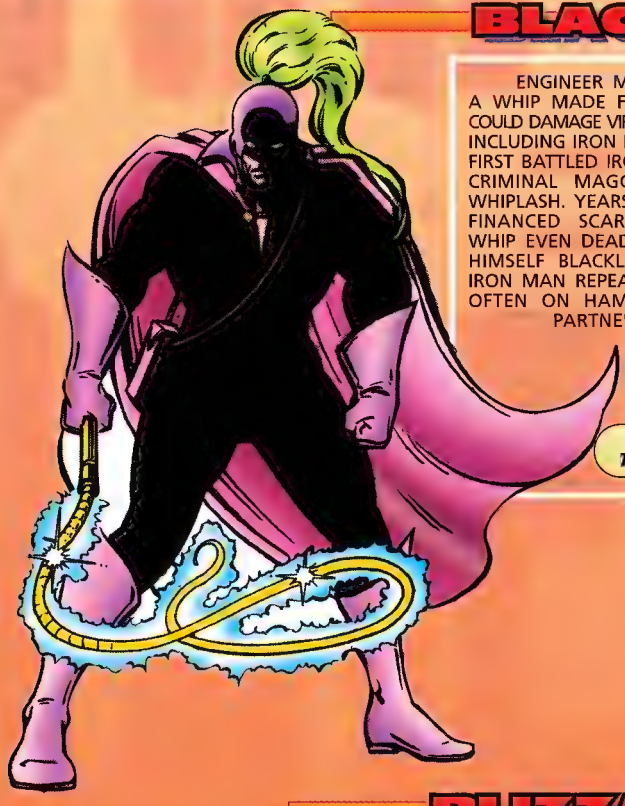
FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #120



BLACKLASH

ENGINEER MARK SCARLOTTI DEVISED A WHIP MADE FROM STEEL FIBERS THAT COULD DAMAGE VIRTUALLY ANY SUBSTANCE--INCLUDING IRON MAN'S ARMOR! WHEN HE FIRST BATTLED IRON MAN, HE SERVED THE CRIMINAL MAGGIA UNDER THE NAME WHIPLASH. YEARS LATER, JUSTIN HAMMER FINANCED SCARLOTTI IN MAKING HIS WHIP EVEN DEADLIER, AND HE RENAMED HIMSELF BLACKLASH. HE HAS FOUGHT IRON MAN REPEATEDLY OVER THE YEARS, OFTEN ON HAMMER'S BEHALF AND IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHER COSTUMED CRIMINALS LIKE THE BEETLE AND THE SECOND BLIZZARD.

FIRST APPEARANCE: TALES OF SUSPENSE #97





BLIZZARD

HUNGARIAN SCIENTIST GREGOR SHAPANKA WAS A TRUSTED EMPLOYEE OF TONY STARK UNTIL HE STOLE THE PLANS FOR ONE OF STARK'S INVENTIONS. STARK FIRED HIM AND SHAPANKA, BENT ON REVENGE, CREATED A BATTLESUIT THAT ENABLED HIM TO PROJECT WAVES OF INTENSE COLD. CALLING HIMSELF JACK FROST, HE ATTACKED STARK INDUSTRIES BUT WAS DEFEATED BY IRON MAN. YEARS LATER SHAPANKA RETURNED TO HIS WAR WITH IRON MAN, HAVING REDESIGNED HIS COSTUME AND RENAMED HIMSELF BLIZZARD. IT WAS, HOWEVER, THE TIME-TRAVELING IRON MAN OF 2020 WHO FINALLY STOPPED SHAPANKA BY KILLING HIM!

JUSTIN HAMMER ACQUIRED SHAPANKA'S WEAPONRY, OUTFITTED A YOUNG OPERATIVE, DONNY GILL, AS THE NEW BLIZZARD, AND MADE HIM THE PARTNER OF THE BEETLE AND BLACKLASH. TONY STARK BELIEVED HE COULD DISSUADE GILL FROM PURSUING A LIFE OF CRIME BUT IN THE END HIS EFFORTS TO SAVE HIM FAILED, AND THE SECOND BLIZZARD REMAINS A MENACE TO THIS DAY.

FIRST APPEARANCE: (JACK FROST) TALES OF SUSPENSE #45, (BLIZZARD I) IRON MAN #86, (BLIZZARD II) IRON MAN #233

CONTROLLER

BASIL SANDHURST WAS AN EMOTIONALLY UNSTABLE RESEARCH SCIENTIST EMPLOYED BY CORD INDUSTRIES, ONE OF TONY STARK'S COMPETITORS. DURING A VISIT BY HIS BROTHER VINCENT, BASIL WENT INTO A FIT OF RAGE, WRECKING THE EQUIPMENT AROUND HIM. TRYING TO CALM HIS BROTHER DOWN, VINCENT ACCIDENTALLY PUSHED HIM AGAINST A COUNTERTOP WITH VESSELS CONTAINING VOLATILE CHEMICALS. THE JOSTLED CHEMICALS EXPLODED, LEAVING BASIL SANDHURST HORRIBLY SCARRED AND ALMOST ENTIRELY PARALYZED.

BUT BASIL'S MIND WAS STILL ACTIVE AND SHARP. EQUIPPED WITH AN AUTOMATED LABORATORY BY HIS GUILT-RIDDEN BROTHER, BASIL INVENTED HIS "SLAVE DISCS," WHICH, WHEN ATTACHED TO A VICTIM, TRANSMITTED THAT PERSON'S LATENT PSIONIC ENERGIES TO A "MENTAL WAVE ABSORBATRON." THAT DEVICE, IN TURN, TRANSFORMED THE ENERGIES INTO POWER FOR BASIL'S ARMORED EXOSKELETON, WHICH ENABLED HIM TO MOVE AND ENDOWED HIM WITH SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH.

CALLING HIMSELF THE CONTROLLER, BASIL SANDHURST HAS REPEATEDLY MADE ATTEMPTS TO ENSLAVE LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE, ONLY TO BE THWARTED TIME AND AGAIN BY IRON MAN. OVER THE YEARS THE CONTROLLER HAS VASTLY IMPROVED HIS WEAPONRY, NOTABLY THROUGH ALIEN TECHNOLOGY SUPPLIED BY THE EVIL ALIEN THANOS, MAKING HIM AN EVEN MORE FORMIDABLE THREAT.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #12



UNICORN



BORN IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, MILOS MASARYK WAS A SOVIET INTELLIGENCE AGENT WHO WAS EQUIPPED WITH A HELMET DESIGNED BY ANTON VANTO, THE ORIGINAL CRIMSON DYNAMO, THAT COULD DISCHARGE DESTRUCTIVE ENERGY BLASTS FROM ITS "POWER HORN!" SENT TO AMERICA, MASAYK, CODE-NAMED THE UNICORN, SUCCEEDED IN CAPTURING IRON MAN FOR A BRIEF TIME!

MASARYK'S MASTERS LATER SUBJECTED HIM TO AN EXPERIMENTAL TREATMENT THAT ENDOWED HIM WITH SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH AT THE PRICE OF CAUSING HIS BODY'S CELLS TO DETERIORATE AT A HORRIFYING RATE! THE UNICORN CLASHED WITH IRON MAN SEVERAL MORE TIMES, AND FINALLY IRON MAN SUCCEEDED IN CAPTURING HIM! BY NOW THE CELLULAR DETERIORATION HAD BEGUN TO AFFECT THE UNICORN'S MIND. IRON MAN SUCCEEDED IN HALTING THE DETERIORATION FOR A TIME, BUT IT APPARENTLY RESUMED ONCE THE UNICORN AGAIN ESCAPED. AFTER A FINAL BATTLE WITH IRON MAN, THE UNICORN WALKED OUT INTO THE SEA, MADLY HOPING HIS ALLY THE TITANIUM MAN WOULD SAVE HIM. THE TITANIUM MAN NEVER CAME.

A MAN WITH A STRANGE THIRD EYE ALSO CALLING HIMSELF THE UNICORN HAS SUBSEQUENTLY JOINED PEOPLE'S PROTECTORATE, A RUSSIAN SUPER HERO TEAM. AND YET ANOTHER UNICORN--POSSIBLY THE ORIGINAL-- HAS RECENTLY SHOWN UP AS A MEMBER OF THE MERCENARY TEAM SENT BY MORGAN STARK--THE STOCKPILE!

FIRST APPEARANCE: TALES OF SUSPENSE #56



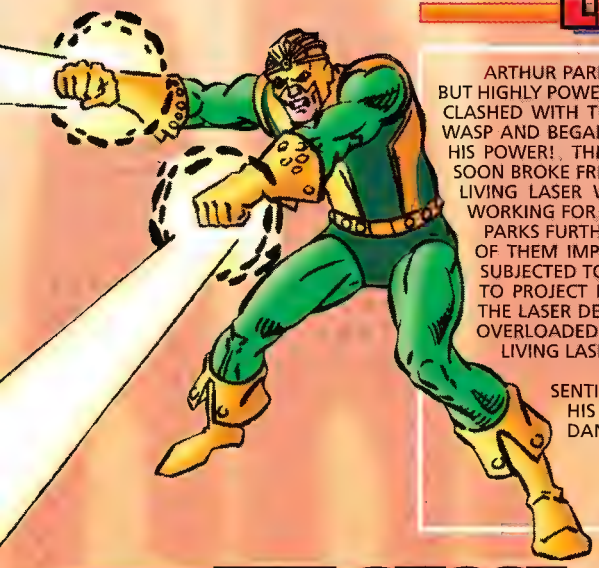
DREADKNIGHT

THE MACABRE DREADKNIGHT OWES HIS CRIMINAL CAREER TO TWO OF IRON MAN'S OTHER MOST FORMIDABLE FOES. PROFESSOR NATHAN GARRETT, THE EVIL BLACK KNIGHT, HAD GENETICALLY ENGINEERED A WINGED HORSE AND CREATED AN ARSENAL OF WEAPONRY, INCCLUDING A LASER-GUN DISGUISED AS A MEDIEVAL LANCE.

FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF HIS MASTER, GARRETT'S WINGED HORSE FLEW AWAY AND WAS EVENTUALLY FOUND BY THE LATVERIAN SCIENTIST BRAM VELSING. HE HAD ONCE SERVED THE DREADED DOCTOR DOOM, WHO HAD PUNISHED HIM BY FUSING A GROTESQUE MASK TO HIS FACE. ADOPTING ARMOR AND WEAPONRY REMINISCENT OF GARRETT'S, VELSING BECAME THE CRIMINAL DREADKNIGHT, A FOE OF BOTH IRON MAN AND GARRETT'S NEPHEW, THE NEW BLACK KNIGHT!

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #101

LIVING LASER



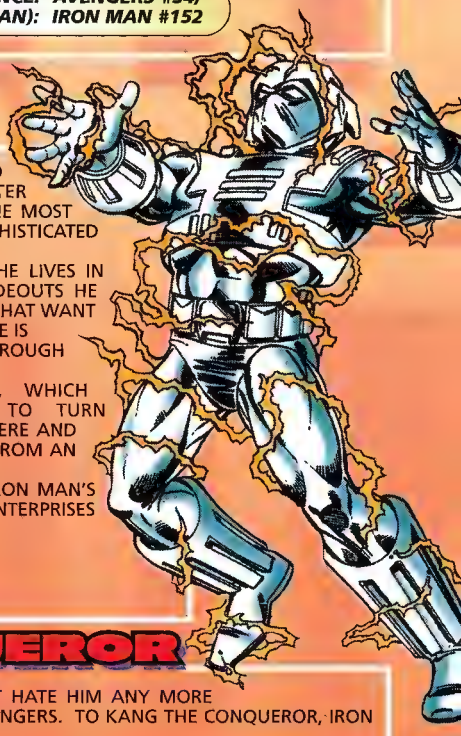
ARTHUR PARKS WAS A BRILLIANT RESEARCH SCIENTIST WHO INVENTED SMALL BUT HIGHLY POWERFUL LASER GUNS THAT HE COULD WEAR ON HIS WRISTS! HE FIRST CLASHED WITH THE AVENGERS WHEN HE DEVELOPED AN INSANE CRUSH ON THE WASP AND BEGAN WREAKING DESTRUCTION IN NEW YORK TO IMPRESS HER WITH HIS POWER! THE AVENGERS CAPTURED HIM AND SENT HIM TO JAIL, BUT PARKS SOON BROKE FREE WITH THE AID OF THE MANDARIN! FROM THEN ONWARD, THE LIVING LASER WAS A PROFESSIONAL CRIMINAL, OPERATING ON HIS OWN OR WORKING FOR MASTERMINDS LIKE THE MANDARIN AND COUNT NEFARIA!

PARKS FURTHER MINIATURIZED HIS LASER WEAPONS AND HAD A LARGE ARRAY OF THEM IMPLANTED IN HIS BODY! COUNT NEFARIA HAD THE LIVING LASER SUBJECTED TO A SPECIAL TREATMENT THAT GAVE NEFARIA HIMSELF THE POWER TO PROJECT LASER BEAMS! BUT AS A RESULT, PARKS COULD NOT TURN OFF THE LASER DEVICES IN HIS OWN BODY! FINALLY THE LIVING LASER'S WEAPONS OVERLOADED WHILE HE WAS FIGHTING IRON MAN AND THEY EXPLODED! THE LIVING LASER'S BODY WAS DESTROYED!

BUT THE LIVING LASER STILL LIVED! NOW HE EXISTS AS A SENTIENT ENERGY BEING WHO CAN FIRE POWERFUL LASER BLASTS! IN HIS NEW FORM HE HAS BECOME ONE OF IRON MAN'S MOST DANGEROUS ENEMIES!

FIRST APPEARANCE: AVENGERS #34, (AGAINST IRON MAN): IRON MAN #152

THE GHOST



IMAGINE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF SOMEHOW TONY STARK WERE FUSED WITH THE UNABOMBER AND YOU WILL BETTER UNDERSTAND IRON MAN'S MOST CUNNING NEMESIS, THE GHOST! PERHAPS THE MOST DANGEROUS SABOTEUR ALIVE, THE GHOST'S GENIUS FOR INVENTING SOPHISTICATED WEAPONRY RIVALS STARK'S OWN!

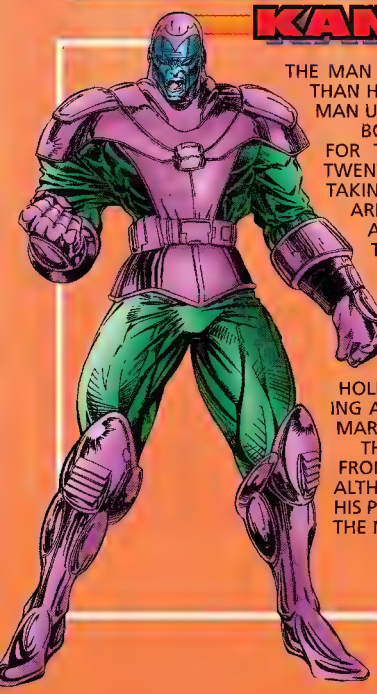
HE CLAIMS TO HAVE ONCE BEEN A CORPORATE EXECUTIVE, BUT NOW HE LIVES IN ISOLATED SHACKS, HIS TRUE IDENTITY KNOWN TO NO ONE. FROM THESE HIDEOUTS HE COMMUNICATES WITH HIS CLIENTS, CORPORATIONS LIKE ROXXON OIL COMPANY THAT WANT TO SABOTAGE THEIR BUSINESS RIVALS. BUT THE GHOST HAS HIS OWN AGENDA: HE IS OUT TO DESTROY ALL CORPORATIONS--EVEN THE ONES THAT HIRE HIM--THROUGH TECHNOLOGY THAT MAKES THEIRS LOOK PRIMITIVE!

THE GHOST TAKES HIS NAME FROM HIS SPECTRAL COSTUME, WHICH CONTAINS CIRCUITRY OF HIS OWN DESIGN THAT ENABLES HIM TO TURN INVISIBLE OR INTANGIBLE AT WILL! THUS HE CAN APPEAR FROM OUT OF NOWHERE AND DISAPPEAR AT WILL! HIS VICTIMS ARE HARD-PRESSED TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM AN ENEMY WHO CAN WALK THROUGH ANY BARRIERS THEY PUT UP!

SO DANGEROUS IS THE GHOST THAT HE SUCCEEDED IN KILLING ONE OF IRON MAN'S LEADING FOES, THE ORIGINAL SPYMASTER! AND IRON MAN AND ALL OF STARK ENTERPRISES STILL REMAIN ON HIS LIST OF TARGETS FOR DESTRUCTION!

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #219

KANG THE CONQUEROR



THE MAN WHO FINALLY DESTROYED IRON MAN DID NOT HATE HIM ANY MORE THAN HE DID ANY OTHER MEMBER OF THE MIGHTY AVENGERS. TO KANG THE CONQUEROR, IRON MAN ULTIMATELY WAS ONLY AN EXPENDABLE PAWN!

BORN IN THE THIRTIETH CENTURY, AN AGE OF PEACE, THE MAN WHO BECAME KANG LONGED FOR THE LIFE OF A WARRIOR, AND GREW OBSESSED WITH THE SUPER HEROES OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY. DISCOVERING A TIME MACHINE, HE JOURNEYED INTO THE PAST, TAKING ON NEW IDENTITIES: PHARAOH RAMA-TUT AND THE SCARLET CENTURION. BUT ON ARRIVING IN THE FAR FUTURE OF THE FORTIETH CENTURY, HE BECAME THE WARLORD KANG AND CARVED OUT AN EMPIRE THAT BEGAN WITH THE EARTH AND SPREAD OUT THROUGH TIME AND SPACE!

ONLY ONE CHALLENGE REMAINED: TO TAKE ON AND DEFEAT THE HEROES OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY! THROUGH REPEATED BATTLES KANG BECAME THE GREATEST ADVERSARY OF THE MIGHTY AVENGERS! UNABLE TO BEST THEM IN PERSONAL COMBAT, HE DECIDED TO SUBVERT THEM FROM WITHIN! WITHOUT HIS VICTIM'S KNOWLEDGE, KANG BEGAN MANIPULATING TONY STARK'S MIND, INCREASING HIS CONTROL AS THE YEARS WENT ON. IT WAS BECAUSE OF KANG THAT STARK FINALLY SUCCUMBED TO ALCOHOLISM. AND FINALLY, KANG'S CONTROL WAS COMPLETE: IRON MAN BECAME HIS SLAVE, FIGHTING AGAINST THE AVENGERS, MURDERING BOTH THE NEW YELLOWJACKET AND THE INHUMAN MARILLA!

THROUGH A GREAT EFFORT OF WILL, IRON MAN FINALLY SUCCEEDED IN FREEING HIMSELF FROM KANG'S MIND CONTROL, BUT IT WAS TOO LATE, AND HE PERISHED! ALTHOUGH TONY'S YOUNGER SELF, FROM ANOTHER TIMELINE, ARRIVED IN THE PRESENT TO TAKE HIS PLACE, IT COULD NOT REVERSE KANG'S VICTORY. THE WARLORD FROM THE FUTURE BECAME THE MAN WHO MURDERED IRON MAN.

FIRST APPEARANCE: AVENGERS #8

SCARY MONSTERS

FIN FANG FOOM

For untold centuries a gigantic winged dragon slept in an immense cave somewhere in China! This is the legendary Fin Fang Foom, who wields vast superhuman strength and is virtually invulnerable! He can exhale a mist of acid that bursts into flame on contact with air! And he is as intelligent as a human being and can even talk!

The people of China did not know that this terrible beast was not native to Earth but was a being from another galaxy! Fin Fang Foom is a member of the alien race of Makluans from the planet Kakaranathara in the Andromeda Galaxy! Ages ago he was the navigator of a Makluan starship that crash-landed on Earth! One of the crew members died in the crash! It was his skeleton that the Mandarin found when he discovered the starship centuries later!

Most of the rest of the Makluan crew somehow took the forms of normal-sized human beings and lived among the Chinese people for centuries! For unknown reason however, Fin Fang Foom fell into a long sleep from which he has awoken four times in the Twentieth Century to menace the modern world!

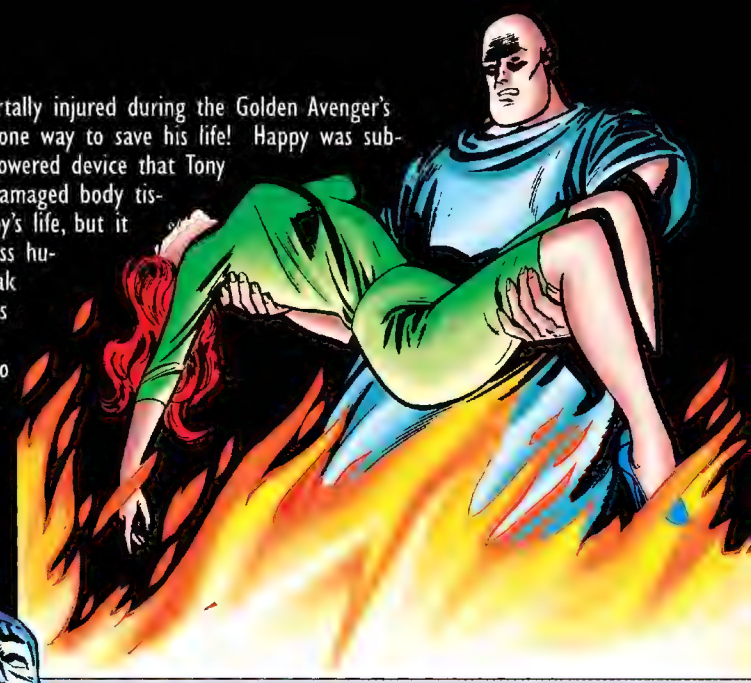
First appearance: STRANGE TALES Vol. I #89, (in IRON MAN): IRON MAN #261

FREAK

When Iron Man's friend Happy Hogan was mortally injured during the Golden Avenger's first duel with the Titanium Man, there was only one way to save his life! Happy was subjected to radiation from an experimental cobalt-powered device that Tony Stark had invented to stimulate regeneration of damaged body tissue! The untested machine did indeed save Happy's life, but it also mutated him into a gigantic, virtually mindless humanoid creature! Driven by savage rage, the Freak possessed enough superhuman strength to hold his own in battle with Iron Man!

Eddie March, a substitute Iron Man, also had to be exposed to the cobalt ray to save his life, and he too for a time mutated into a Freak! After Happy was cured of his second relapse into his Freak form, Tony Stark vowed never to use the dangerous cobalt ray device again, no matter what!

First appearance: (Freak I) TALES OF SUSPENSE #74, (Freak II) IRON MAN #67



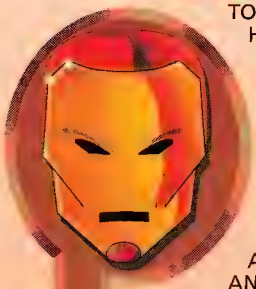
ULTIMO

No one knows the origin of Ultimo, a gigantic android that was constructed thousands of years ago as a doomsday weapon by unknown beings. Virtually indestructible, Ultimo has titanic Superhuman strength and can fire destructive beams from his eyes.

It was the Mandarin who first discovered Ultimo and programmed him to serve him in his battles against Iron Man. Recently, however, Ultimo has freed himself of the Mandarin's control and returned to his original programming to wreak universal destruction! When he last appeared, it took Iron Man and his Iron Legion, a small army of people in Iron Man battle armor, to defeat Ultimo!

First appearance: TALES OF SUSPENSE #76

DEAD FOES OF IRON MAN



FIREBRAND

RADICAL ACTIVIST GARY GILBERT TURNED INTO A COSTUMED TERRORIST WHEN HE TOOK THE IDENTITY OF FIREBRAND. HIS MAIN WEAPONS WERE THE WRIST DEVICES HE USED TO SHOOT FLAMES TO BURN DOWN BUILDINGS BELONGING TO PEOPLE HE CONSIDERED HIS POLITICAL ENEMIES--LIKE TONY STARK! THE THERMAL JETS HE WORE ENABLED HIM TO FLY, AND HIS ARMORED EXOSKELETON AMPLIFIED HIS STRENGTH ENOUGH TO LET HIM GRAPPLE WITH IRON MAN. ORIGINALLY HE WAS RELUCTANTLY AIDED BY HIS SISTER ROXANNE BUT SHE BECAME STARK'S FRIEND.

ISOLATED, BRANDED AN OUTLAW AND DRIVEN INTO A LIFE OF POVERTY, GARY GILBERT FINALLY ABANDONED HIS FIREBRAND IDENTITY AND HIS PRINCIPLES. INSTEAD, HE BECOME THE PROSPEROUS BUSINESS AGENT FOR OTHER COSTUMED CRIMINALS SEEKING MERCENARY WORK! AND IT WAS THIS ROLE THAT GILBERT MET HIS DOOM AT THE HANDS OF THE VIGILANTE SCOURGE!



FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #27

SPYMASTER



SO MYSTERIOUS WAS THE ORIGINAL SPYMASTER THAT EVEN TODAY, YEARS AFTER HIS DEATH, NO ONE KNOWS WHO HE TRULY WAS. HE WAS THE CONSUMMATE INDUSTRIAL SPY AND SABOTEUR, A MASTER OF DISGUISE WHO WIELDED AN AMAZING ARRAY OF HIGH-TECH WEAPONRY SUPPLIED TO HIM BY HIS PRINCIPAL EMPLOYER, JUSTIN HAMMER. THE SPYMASTER PLAGUED IRON MAN REPEATEDLY, FIRST AS LEADER OF HIS ESPIONAGE ELITE AND AFTERWARDS WORKING SOLO.

IT WAS NOT IRON MAN WHO FINALLY MADE THE SPYMASTER PAY FOR HIS CRIMES, BUT A NEWER, EVEN DEADLIER SABOTEUR, THE GHOST, WHO BRUTALLY MURDERED HIS RIVAL. BUT BEFORE HE DIED, THE SPYMASTER HAD SUCCEEDED IN STEALING PLANS FOR IRON MAN'S BATTLE SUIT, WHICH HAMMER SOLD AROUND THE WORLD, FORCING IRON MAN TO DESTROY HIS RIVALS BATTLESUITS IN THE FIRST "ARMOR WAR."

SUBSEQUENTLY, A FORMER STUDENT FROM THE TASKMASTER'S ACADEMY FOR TRAINING COSTUMED CRIMINALS HAS TAKEN OVER THE IDENTITY OF THE SPYMASTER. AND THIS MAN'S TRUE IDENTITY IS A MYSTERY AS WELL

FIRST APPEARANCE: (SPYMASTER I) IRON MAN #33, (SPYMASTER II) IRON MAN #254



OBADIAH STANE WAS A MULTIMILLIONAIRE MUNITIONS DEALER, NOT A SUPER-VILLAIN, BUT HE CAME CLOSER TO DESTROYING IRON MAN THAN ALMOST ANY OTHER FOE! A RUTHLESS CORPORATE RAIDER, STANE PLANNED TO RUIN TONY STARK NOT ONLY FINANCIALLY, BUT PSYCHOLOGICALLY! HE HAD HIS EMPLOYEE, INDRIES MOOMJI, MANIPULATE STARK INTO FALLING IN LOVE WITH HER! THEN, WHEN SHE BETRAYED HIM, HE RELAPSED INTO ALCOHOLISM! STANE SEIZED FINANCIAL CONTROL OF STARK INTERNATIONAL, TURNING IT INTO STANE INTERNATIONAL! BEFORE LONG, TONY STARK WAS A PENNILESS DERELICT LIVING ON THE STREETS! BUT AS THE MONTHS WENT BY, STARK SUMMONED ENOUGH WILL TO BECOME SOBER AGAIN AND DON HIS IRON MAN ARMOR ONCE MORE! WEARING HIS IRON MONGER BATTLE SUIT, STANE FOUGHT HIS LAST BATTLE WITH IRON MAN! FINALLY, FACING DEFEAT, STANE TOOK THE COWARD'S WAY OUT AND KILLED HIMSELF!

OBADIAH STANE

FIRST APPEARANCE: (HAND AND VOICE ONLY) IRON MAN #163 (FULLY SHOWN, AS STANE) IRON MAN #166

CLAD IN SHINING ARMOR AND CRUSADING AGAINST EVIL, IRON MAN IS LIKE A LATTER-DAY KNIGHT OF THE ROUND TABLE. BUT ONE OF HIS STRANGEST ADVERSARIES MORE LITERALLY FASHIONED HIMSELF AFTER A KNIGHT, BUT WIELDED FUTURISTIC WEAPONRY.

PROFESSOR NATHAN GARRETT TOOK ON THE IDENTITY OF HIS ANCESTOR, THE HEROIC BLACK KNIGHT WHO SERVED KING ARTHUR IN THE MIDDLE AGES. BUT GARRETT USED HIS ARMORED IDENTITY AS A SPY AND COSTUMED MERCENARY. A BRILLIANT GENETIC ENGINEER, HE MUTATED A HORSE TO GIVE IT ENORMOUS BAT-LIKE WINGS THAT ENABLED IT TO CARRY HIM ALOFT IN FLIGHT. HE WIELDED A LANCE THAT FIRED DEADLY LASER BEAMS AS WELL AS A MULTITUDE OF OTHER WEAPONS.

THE BLACK KNIGHT BOTH FOUGHT IRON MAN ALONE AND, AS A MEMBER OF THE MASTERS OF EVIL, AGAINST IRON MAN AND HIS FELLOW AVENGERS AS WELL. IN THEIR FINAL BATTLE, THE BLACK KNIGHT RENDERED IRON MAN POWERLESS WITH AN ELECTRICAL BLAST AND THEN CARRIED HIM HIGH INTO THE SKY ATOP HIS WINGED STEED. BUT BEFORE THE KNIGHT COULD THROW IRON MAN TO HIS DEATH, THE GOLDEN AVENGER REVIVED, AND IN THE STRUGGLE, IT WAS GARRETT WHO PLUNGED TO HIS DOOM! IRONICALLY, GARRETT'S NEPHEW, DANE WHITMAN, THEN BECAME THE NEW BLACK KNIGHT, A HERO LIKE HIS ANCESTOR!

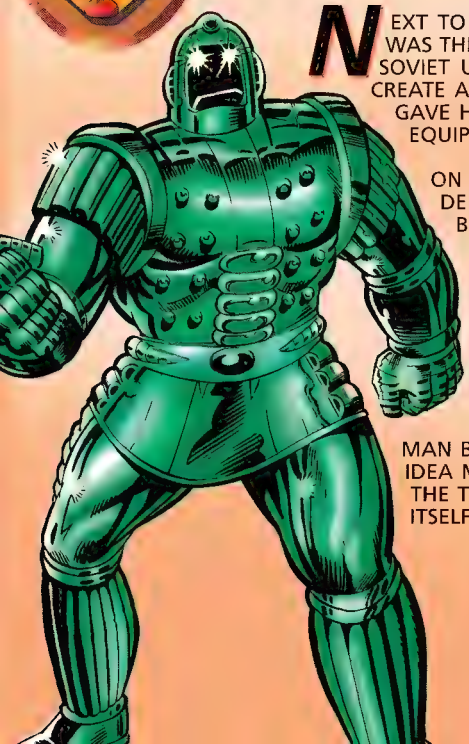


BLACK KNIGHT

FIRST APPEARANCE: TALES OF SUSPENSE #59



TITANIUM MAN



NEXT TO THE MANDARIN, PERHAPS IRON MAN'S GREATEST ENEMY OF ALL WAS THE ORIGINAL TITANIUM MAN! AN AMBITIOUS HIGH OFFICIAL IN THE SOVIET UNION, BORIS BULLSKI WORKED WITH IMPRISONED SCIENTISTS TO CREATE A TITANIUM STEEL BATTLE SUIT FAR LARGER THAN IRON MAN'S! IT GAVE HIM VAST SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH, THE ABILITY TO FLY, AND WAS EQUIPPED WITH POWERFUL WEAPONS SYSTEMS!

THE TITANIUM MAN CHALLENGED IRON MAN TO FIGHT HIM ON TELEVISION TO PROVE THE SUPERIORITY OF COMMUNISM TO DEMOCRACY! BUT INSTEAD, AFTER A TREMENDOUS BATTLE, IRON MAN BESTED HIS SOVIET FOE!

BUT THAT WAS FAR FROM THE END OF THE TITANIUM MAN! HE UNDERWENT EXPERIMENTS THAT NEARLY DOUBLED HIS SIZE AND DONNED AN EVEN MORE POWERFUL BATTLE SUIT! OVER THE YEARS IRON MAN FOUGHT THE TITANIUM MAN TIME AND AGAIN!

DURING A PERIOD WHEN THE ORIGINAL TITANIUM MAN HAD DISAPPEARED, A SOVIET GENIUS NAMED THE GREMLIN CREATED HIS OWN TITANIUM MAN ARMOR! BUT THE GREMLIN DIED ACCIDENTALLY DURING HIS OWN BATTLE AGAINST IRON MAN!

AFTER THE SOVIET UNION COLLAPSED, THE ORIGINAL TITANIUM MAN BRIEFLY WORKED FOR THE MUNITIONS MAKERS OF THE ADVANCED IDEA MECHANICS. BUT, UNWILLING TO ACCEPT THE END OF HIS REGIME, THE TITANIUM MAN MADE A FINAL ATTACK ON IRON MAN IN MOSCOW ITSELF, ONLY TO DIE IN COMBAT!

FIRST APPEARANCE: (TITANIUM MAN I) TALES OF SUSPENSE #69, (TITANIUM MAN II AS GREMLIN II) INCREDIBLE HULK #163, (AS TITANIUM MAN II) X-MEN VS. THE AVENGERS #1, (FIRST IRON MAN APPEARANCE) IRON MAN #229

ONE OF IRON MAN'S MOST UNUSUAL ADVERSARIES WAS MODOK, WHOSE NAME WAS AN ACRONYM FOR **M**ENTAL **O**RGANISM **D**ESIGNED **O**NLY FOR **K**ILLING. ORIGINALLY HE WAS GEORGE TARLETON, A LOWLY TECHNICIAN EMPLOYED BY ADVANCED IDEA TECHNICIAN EMPLOYED BY ADVANCED IDEA MECHANICS, A CABAL OF MASKED SCIENTISTS INTENT ON WORLD DOMINATION.

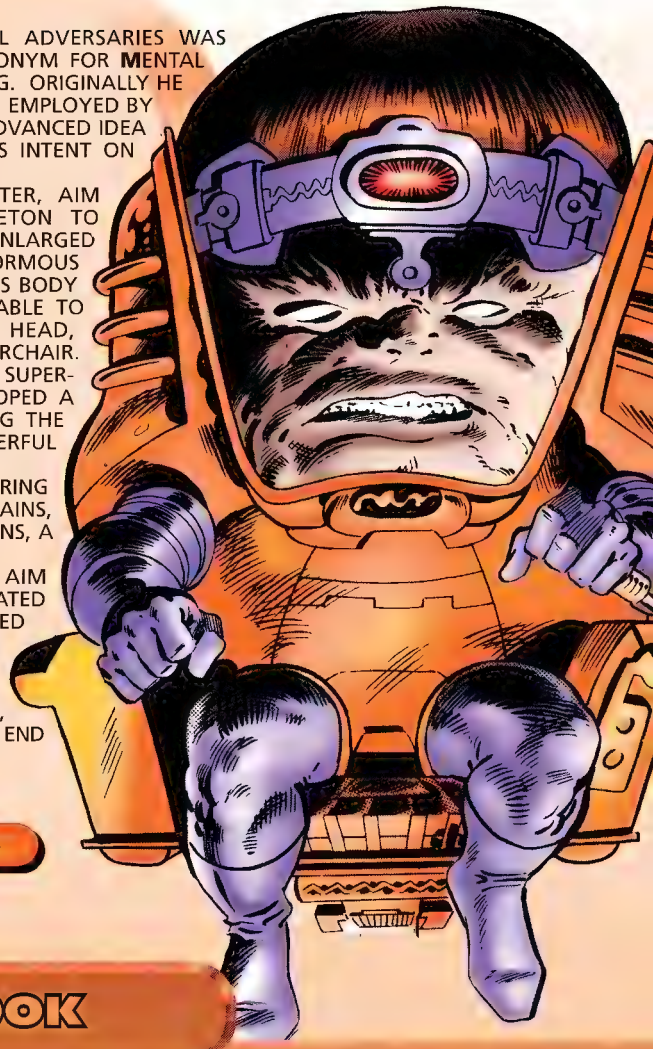
PLANNING TO CREATE A LIVING COMPUTER, AIM SCIENTISTS FORCED THE UNWILLING TARLETON TO UNDERGO MUTAGENIC EXPERIMENTS THAT ENLARGED HIS HEAD AND BRAIN TO GROTESQUELY ENORMOUS SIZE. IN THE PROCESS THE REST OF TARLETON'S BODY ATROPHIED AND EVEN GREW SMALLER. UNABLE TO SUPPORT THE WEIGHT OF HIS MASSIVE HEAD, TARLETON WAS FORCED TO REMAIN IN A HOVERCHAIR.

BUT MODOK NOT ONLY NOW POSSESSED SUPER-HUMAN INTELLIGENCE, HE ALSO HAD DEVELOPED A WIDE RANGE OF PSIONIC ABILITIES, INCLUDING THE POWER TO GENERATE INTENSE HEAT AND POWERFUL FORCE BEAMS.

IRON MAN FIRST CLASHED WITH MODOK DURING THE BLACK LAMA'S WAR OF THE SUPER-VILLAINS, AND LATER FOUGHT ALONGSIDE THE CHAMPIONS, A SHORT-LIVED SUPER HERO TEAM.

EVENTUALLY THE HUMAN MEMBERS OF AIM OVERTHREW MODOK AND HAD HIM ASSASSINATED BY THE SERPENT SOCIETY. BUT MODOK REMAINED A MENACE EVEN AFTER HIS DEATH. AIM REANIMATED MODOK'S CORPSE AND DIRECTED THE MINDLESS CREATURE BY REMOTE CONTROL IN AN ATTACK ON IRON MAN. THIS TIME, THOUGH, MODOK'S BODY WAS DESTROYED, PUTTING AN END TO HIS THREAT FOREVER.

FIRST IRON MAN APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #74





MODOK

MELTER



THE MYSTERIOUS MELTER WAS REALLY BRUNO HORGAN, A BUSINESS RIVAL OF STARK'S WHO USED HIS MELTING BEAM TO SABOTAGE STARK'S OPERATIONS! THE MELTING RAY WAS NOT ACTUALLY HEAT BUT SOMETHING MORE POWERFUL--A BEAM THAT COULD DISINTEGRATE THE ATOMS OF ANY MATERIAL, INCLUDING IRON MAN'S ARMOR! USUALLY THE MELTER WORE THE MELTING BEAM PROJECTOR ON HIS CHEST, BUT SOMETIMES HE WIELDED A MELTING RAY GUN INSTEAD, MAKING HIM EVEN MORE DANGEROUS! THOUGH HE FOUGHT THE GOLDEN AVENGER MANY TIMES, IT WAS NOT IRON MAN WHO FINALLY ENDED HIS CRIMINAL CAREER! INSTEAD, IT WAS THE VIGILANTE SCOURGE WHO ASSASSINATED THE MELTER, SHOUTING "JUSTICE IS SERVED!"

FIRST APPEARANCE: TALES OF SUSPENSE # 47.

IRON MAN'S LAMEST FOES

MIDAS



HE WAS NOT IRON MAN'S SMARTEST OPPONENT, BUT MORDECAI MIDAS WAS CERTAINLY THE FATTEST. THIS GUY MAKES THE KINGPIN LOOK ANOREXIC! A DESTITUTE CHILD IN THE SLUMS OF GREECE, MIDAS WAS DRIVEN BY HIS OVERPOWERING APPETITE FOR WEALTH AND POWER TO CREATE A FINANCIAL EMPIRE THAT MADE HIM ONE OF THE WORLD'S RICHEST MEN. UNFORTUNATELY, HE WAS ALSO CRAZY AND TOOK TO DRESSING AS IF HE WERE A KING IN ANCIENT GREECE AND LIVING IN RECREATIONS OF CLASSICAL PALACES. HE HAD OTHER APPETITES, TOO, AND BECAME SO GROTESQUELY OBESE THAT HE COULD NOT EVEN WALK WITHOUT HIS POWERED EXO-SKELETON. HEY, EVEN THE BLOB CAN WALK!

THEN THERE WAS MIDAS'S "GOLDEN TOUCH." HE WORE SPECIAL GLOVES THAT HE USED TO PARALYZE HIS ENEMIES AND COVER THEM IN GOLD, TURNING THEM INTO STATUES HE COULD KEEP AS TROPHIES. IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN SMARTER NOT TO KEEP THE CORPUS DELECTI AROUND, BUT MIDAS WAS AMONG OTHER THINGS A FATHEAD.

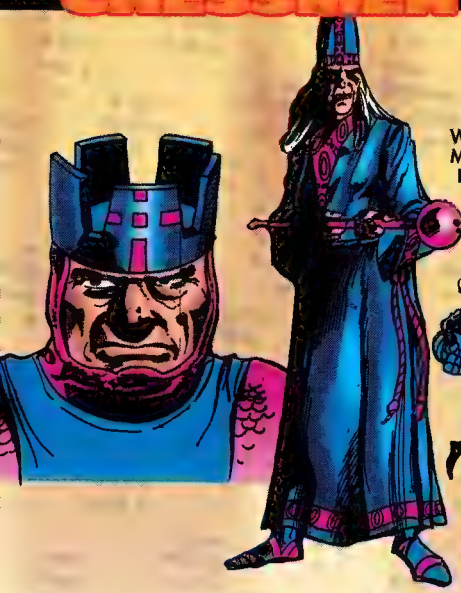
FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #17

GARGANTUS

SO THERE WERE THESE ALIEN INVADERS WHO WANTED TO CONQUER EARTH IN THE WORST WAY. AND IT CERTAINLY WAS. THEY BUILT THIS GIANT ROBOT CAVEMAN CALLED GARGANTUS AND GAVE HIM A REALLY BIG CLUB. AND IRON MAN BUSTED HIM UP IN LESS THAN TWENTY PAGES. IT JUST GOES TO PROVE THAT EVEN ALIEN INVADERS CAN BE ROCK STUPID.

FIRST APPEARANCE: TALES OF SUSPENSE #40

CHESSMEN



OBADIAH STANE WAS A GREAT VILLAIN, BUT HE WAS OVERLY ENAMORED OF THE CLICHE ABOUT MASTERMINDS PLAYING CHESS WITH FATE. SO HE DRESSED HIS UNDERLINGS UP AS CHESSPIECES: KNIGHTS, A PAWN, AND EVEN A ROOK. SO WE WERE TREATED TO THE SPECTACLE OF IRON MAN FIGHTING A GUY DRESSED UP AS A BISHOP! IT COULD HAVE BEEN WORSE: STANE COULD HAVE HAD A TEAM OF ASSASSINS DRESSED UP AS NUNS!

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #163

QUASAR THE FUTURE MAN



THERE HAVE BEEN THREE MARVEL CHARACTERS NAMED QUASAR: THE FIRST ONE WAS THE LAME ONE. A GENETIC ENGINEER BY THE UNLIKELY NAME OF PROFESSOR KURARKILL ARTIFICIALLY EVOLVED AN APE INTO A SUPER-HUMANLY STRONG HUMANOID WHO COULD DRAIN LIFE ENERGY FROM OTHER LIVING BEINGS. THIS PROVED NOT TO BE AN EVOLUTIONARY IMPROVEMENT ON EATING BANANAS.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #79



BLACK LAMA

UNDENIABLY THE LAMEST IRON MAN VILLAIN OF ALL TIME IS THE BLACK LAMA (SCARY NAME, HUH?), WHO WAS ACTUALLY KING JERALD, AN ALTERNATE EARTH COUNTERPART OF PRESIDENT GERALD FORD. YOU SEE, ON THAT EARTH, NORTH AMERICA CONSISTS OF DOZENS OF TINY MONARCHIES WITH CUTE NAMES LIKE JERALD'S KINGDOM OF GRAND RAPIDS. WELL, JERALD USED HIS INTERDIMENSIONAL TRANSPORTER TO GO TO IRON MAN'S EARTH, BUT IT DROVE HIM INSANE. SO HE WENT AROUND STIRRING UP TROUBLE BY OFFERING ALL THESE SUPER-VILLAINS THE SECRET OF INNER PEACE IF THEY WOULD ONLY TRY TO PROVE THEIR WORTHINESS BY KILLING EACH OTHER OFF. OTHERWISE SENSIBLE BAD GUYS LIKE THE MANDARIN ACTUALLY FELL FOR THIS, BUT DOCTOR DOOM TOLD THE BLACK LAMA, "CHARLATAN, YOU ARE SO BENEATH MY SCORN, I'LL NOT WASTE MY TIME PUNISHING YOUR IMPUDENCE! BEGONE!" IF ONLY THE LAMA HAD, BUT HE HUNG AROUND ISSUE AFTER ISSUE, AND WE EVEN MET HIS DAUGHTER, PRINCESS SUSAN (NOW THERE'S AN EXOTIC NAME). THE REAL GERALD FORD IS WELL KNOWN FOR ISSUING PARDONS, BUT THE SAGA OF THE BLACK LAMA WILL FOREVER BE UNPARDONABLE.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #53

MISTER DOLL

NOT ONLY DID MISTER DOLL HAVE THE LEAST FRIGHTENING NAME OF ANY MARVEL SUPER-VILLAIN (WONDER IF HIS FIRST NAME IS "KEN") BUT HE ALSO MAKES MR. BLACKLAMA'S LIST OF THE WORST DRESSED SUPER-VILLAINS OF ALL TIME. HIS GIMMICK WAS HURTING IRON MAN BY SQUEEZING A VOODOO DOLL, PROVING HOW THE PUPPET MASTER COULD HAVE BEEN DONE BADLY. IRON MAN BEAT THIS SINISTER MASTER OF SQUEEZE TOYS BY USING REPULSOR RAYS TO RESCULPT THE IRON MAN VOODOO DOLL INTO ONE THAT LOOKED LIKE MISTER DOLL. YES, TONY STARK HAS EVEN FOUND A HIGH TECH REPLACEMENT FOR THE HAMMER AND CHISEL.

FIRST APPEARANCE: TALES OF SUSPENSE #48





TERMITE

ONE OF THE LAMEST IRON MAN VILLAINS OF ALL WAS THE TERMITE. FIRST, TAKE WHAT HE DOES: HE'S A MUTANT WHO TUNNELS UNDER BUILDINGS AND DESTROYS THEIR FOUNDATIONS SO THEY COLLAPSE. SO UNLESS HE CAN TRICK IRON MAN INTO STANDING BENEATH THE BUILDING WHEN IT FALLS DOWN, THE TERMITE'S GOING TO HAVE A HARD TIME BEATING HIM.

THEN THERE'S THE TERMITE'S NAME. TERMITES EAT WOOD. HE DOESN'T. YES, THE NAME "WRECKER" WAS TAKEN, BUT STILL, HE COULD HAVE DONE BETTER.

WORST OF ALL, HAVING PICKED A DUMB NAME, THE TERMITE THEN WORE A HELMET THAT MADE HIM LOOK LIKE A CARTOON BUG. THIS GUY NEEDS A MIRROR.

THE TERMITE WORKED FOR OBADIAH STANE. CONSIDERING HIS STANDARDS FOR EMPLOYEE COMPETENCE, HOW DID HE KEEP STANE INTERNATIONAL GOING SO LONG?

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #189



VIBRO

WHEN YOU'RE NAMED ALTON FRANCIS VIBEREAUX, YOU MUST KNOW YOUR DESTINY IS TO VIBRATE, PREFERABLY IN FRENCH. DESPITE THIS BAD OMEN, ALTON BECAME A SEISMOLOGIST AND MADE A REALLY BIG MISTAKE. WHEN YOU LAUNCH EXPERIMENTAL PROBE INTO AN EARTH FAULT, DON'T GO DOWN INSIDE WITH IT.

OF COURSE HE WAS CAUGHT IN A QUAKE, AND BECAUSE HE WAS IN THE MARVEL UNIVERSE HE DIDN'T GET KILLED, HE GOT SUPER-POWERS. IT ALSO MADE HIM REALLY UGLY, THOUGH, GRANTED, THIS WASN'T A STRETCH FOR HIM. NOT ONLY THAT, THE ACCIDENT MADE HIM MENTALLY UNSTABLE, GET IT?

VIBRO HAS GONE AROUND EVER SINCE USING HIS POWERS TO CREATE EARTHQUAKES. BASICALLY, HE MAKES BUILDINGS FALL DOWN. IN OTHER WORDS, HE'S LIKE THE TERMITE BUT WITHOUT THE DOPEY HELMET.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #186

MANY LOVES OF TONY STARK

THE ADULT TONY STARK WAS RENOWNED AS A PLAYBOY AND INDEED HE HAD MORE ROMANTIC ENTANGLEMENTS OVER THE COURSE OF HIS CAREER THAN ANY OTHER MARVEL HERO. HERE IS A LIST OF THE MANY WOMEN WHO HAVE PASSED THROUGH HIS LIFE. SOME UNSCATHED AND SOME QUITE SCATHING...

VIRGINIA "PEPPER" POTTS HOGAN



WHEN SHE FIRST BECAME TONY STARK'S SECRETARY, PEPPER POTTS AND TONY WERE DEEPLY IN LOVE WITH EACH OTHER, BUT NEVER TOLD EACH OTHER HOW THEY FELT. STARK FELT IT WAS WRONG TO GET INVOLVED WITH PEPPER DUE TO HIS INJURED HEART. EVENTUALLY, TONY GAVE UP HOPE OF ROMANCE WITH PEPPER WHEN HE LEARNED SHE AND HAPPY HOGAN WERE IN LOVE. HAVING BEEN MARRIED TO HAPPY FOR YEARS NOW, PEPPER WAS ONCE AGAIN STARK'S CLOSE FRIEND AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH.

FIRST APPEARANCE: TALES OF SUSPENSE #45

NATASHA ROMANOVA A.K.A. BLACK WIDOW



THE BLACK WIDOW BEGAN DATING TONY STARK WHEN SHE FIRST CAME TO AMERICA, BUT SHE WAS EXPOSED AS A SOVIET SPY BEFORE THEIR RELATIONSHIP COULD GO ANYWHERE. AFTER SHE DEFECTED AND JOINED THE AVENGERS, NATASHA AND IRON MAN BECAME FRIENDS AND ALLIES, AND CONTINUED THEIR FLIRTATIOUS RELATIONSHIP UP TO THE TIME OF HIS DEATH.

FIRST APPEARANCE: TALES OF SUSPENSE #52



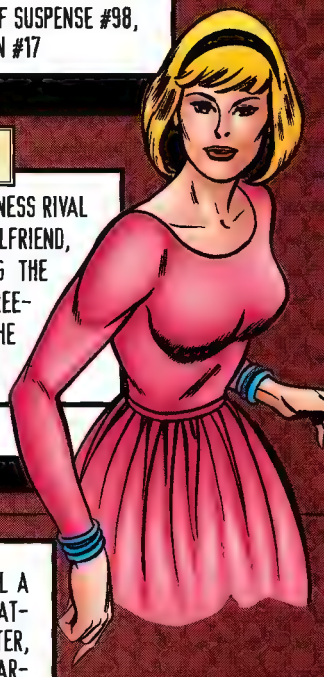
WHITNEY FROST A.K.A. MADAME MASQUE I

WHITNEY WAS A YOUNG SOCIALITE WHO WAS FORCED BY HER CRIMINAL FATHER, COUNT NEFARIA, INTO TAKING OVER HIS MAGGIA "FAMILY." AFTER HER FACE WAS SCARRED IN AN ACCIDENT, SHE BECAME MADAME MASQUE, AN OPERATIVE FOR TONY STARK'S ENEMY MIDAS. SHE AND STARK BECAME STRONGLY ATTRACTED TO EACH OTHER AND SHE HELPED HIM DEFEAT MIDAS.

YEARS LATER STARK AND MADAME MASQUE BECAME LOVERS AND SHE LEARNED HIS DOUBLE IDENTITY. BUT WHEN COUNT NEFARIA DIED WHILE BATTLING IRON MAN, MADAME MASQUE WENT MAD. FROM THEN ON SHE WAS BENT ON VENGEANCE AGAINST IRON MAN. SHE WAS APPARENTLY SHOT DEAD BY THE WOMAN NOW KNOWN AS MASQUE.

FIRST APPEARANCE (AS WHITNEY): TALES OF SUSPENSE #98,
(AS MADAME MASQUE) IRON MAN #17





JANICE CORD

JANICE WAS THE DAUGHTER AND HEIR OF DREXEL CORD, A BUSINESS RIVAL OF STARK'S. AFTER DREXEL'S DEATH JANICE BECAME STARK'S GIRLFRIEND, ONLY TO BE REPEATEDLY ENDANGERED BY HIS FOES, INCLUDING THE MANDARIN. FINALLY SHE WAS KILLED BY THE TITANIUM MAN IN A THREE-WAY BATTLE WITH IRON MAN AND THE THIRD CRIMSON DYNAMO. SHE DIED IN IRON MAN'S ARMS, NOT KNOWING HE WAS THE MAN SHE LOVED.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #12

MEREDITH McCALL

MEREDITH WAS TONY'S FIRST LOVE WHEN HE WAS STILL A TEENAGER. BUT THEIR FATHERS WERE BUSINESS RIVALS AND SEPARATED THEM, SENDING THEM TO SCHOOLS AN OCEAN APART. YEARS LATER, IRON MAN RESCUED HER FROM THE CONTROLLER. LEARNING SHE WAS MARRIED, IRON MAN DECIDED IT WOULD BE TOO PAINFUL TO SEE HER AGAIN AS STARK.

RECENTLY THE ADULT STARK MET HER AGAIN BUT NOW SHE WAS NO LONGER MARRIED AND HAD A FAR MORE AGGRESSIVE PERSONALITY. IN FACT, SHE APPARENTLY ENDED UP JOINING THE NINJA BAND CALLED THE MASTERS OF SILENCE!

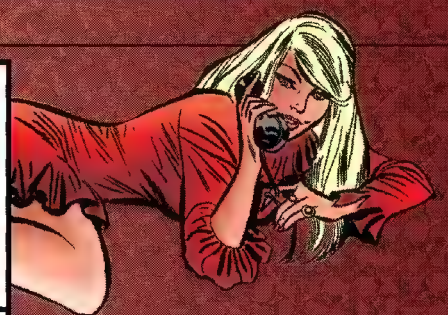
STILL MORE RECENTLY, THE 19-YEAR-OLD TONY MET HER AGAIN, BUT THIS TIME SHE WAS MEREDITH ALDEN, A MARRIED PROFESSOR AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY! CLEARLY, THERE IS A MYSTERY TO BE SOLVED HERE.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #28

MARIANNE RODGERS

MARIANNE POSSESSED STRONG PSYCHIC POWERS WHICH, UNFORTUNATELY, COULD NOT PREVENT HER FROM SUFFERING A MENTAL BREAKDOWN. SHE SPENT MANY YEARS CONFINED TO A MENTAL INSTITUTION. RECENTLY, HOWEVER, SHE REGAINED HER SANITY AND HELPED THE AVENGERS COMBAT IRON MAN AFTER STARK HAD FALLEN FULLY UNDER THE MENTAL CONTROL OF KANG THE CONQUEROR.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #36



ROXANNE GILBERT



IRONICALLY, ROXANNE GILBERT, A POLITICAL ACTIVIST AND PACIFIST, WAS THE SISTER OF THE TERRORIST FIREBRAND, ONE OF IRON MAN'S FOES! SHE CONTINUALLY BERATED STARK FOR MANUFACTURING MUNITIONS IN THE PAST--UNTIL HE ASKED HER OUT ON A DATE! THEIR DIFFERENT LIFESTYLES AND POLITICS GOT IN THE WAY OF THEIR ROMANCE, BUT TONY AND ROXANNE REMAINED GOOD FRIENDS.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #59



BETHANY CABE

A GLAMOROUS AND COURAGEOUS PROFESSIONAL BODYGUARD, BETHANY NOT ONLY BECAME STARK'S GIRLFRIEND BUT BECAME IRON MAN'S STALWART ALLY IN COMBAT. PERHAPS IT IS NO SURPRISE, THEN, THAT SHE DEDUCED THAT STARK AND IRON MAN WERE ONE AND THE SAME! IT WAS BETHANY WHO HELPED TONY OVERCOME HIS FIRST BOUT WITH ALCOHOLISM.

THEIR RELATIONSHIP ENDED WHEN SHE WENT BACK TO EUROPE TO CARE FOR HER DISREPUTABLE HUSBAND ALEX VON TILBURG, WHO HAS SINCE DIED. BEFORE THE ADULT STARK'S DEATH SHE RETURNED TO HIS EMPLOY AS HIS HEAD OF SECURITY.

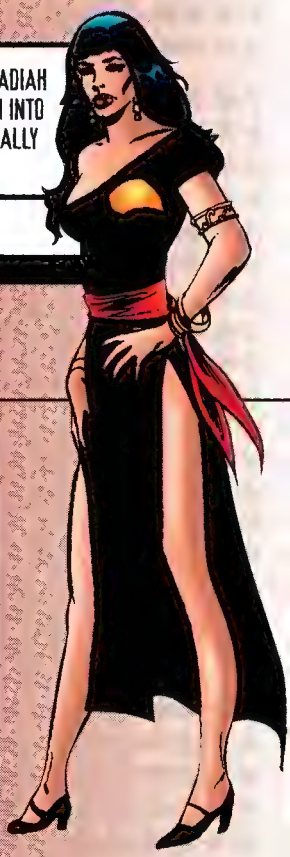
THEY REMAINED FRIENDS AND CONFIDANTES, ALTHOUGH A BRIEF ATTEMPT TO REVIVE THEIR ROMANCE PROVED UNSUCCESSFUL.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #117

INDRIES MOOMJI

INDRIES WAS SECRETLY AN OPERATIVE OF ONE OF TONY'S WORST ENEMIES, OBADIAH STANE. ON HIS INSTRUCTIONS SHE TOYED WITH STARK'S EMOTIONS, MANIPULATING HIM INTO FALLING IN LOVE WITH HER. WHEN SHE THEN COLDLY REJECTED HIM, TONY, EMOTIONALLY SHATTERED, FELL BACK INTO ALCOHOLISM.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #163





JANET VAN DYNE A.K.A. THE WASP

AS FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE AVENGERS, IRON MAN AND THE WASP HAD BEEN FRIENDS AND ALLIES FOR YEARS. AFTER JAN SEPARATED FROM HER HUSBAND HENRY PYM, TONY BEGAN ROMANCING HER. BUT FEELING HE WAS BETRAYING HIS FRIEND HANK, STARK FINALLY REVEALED TO HER HE WAS IRON MAN. JAN TOO FELT IT WAS WRONG TO HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH ONE OF HANK'S FRIENDS AND BROKE IT OFF. TONY AND JAN'S FRIENDSHIP, HOWEVER, REMAINED INTACT.

HAD AFFAIR WITH STARK IN AVENGERS #224



HEATHER GLENN

THE WORST PERSON THAT TONY COULD HAVE DATED AFTER HIS BREAKUP WITH INDRIES MOOMJI WAS HEATHER GLENN, A FORMER GIRLFRIEND OF DAREDEVIL WHO WAS HERSELF AN ALCOHOLIC. SHE BRIEFLY DATED STARK AS THEY BOTH CONTINUED THEIR DRUNKEN DECLINES. HERS ENDED IN SUICIDE.

ENCOUNTERED STARK IN IRON MAN #171

CLYTEMNESTRA ERWIN



CLYTEMNESTRA AND HER BROTHER MORLEY WERE TONY'S FRIENDS WHEN HE WAS GETTING BACK ON HIS FEET AFTER OVERCOMING HIS ALCOHOLISM. TOGETHER WITH JIM RHODES THEY HELPED TONY FOUND CIRCUITS MAXIMUS AND EVEN KNEW HE WAS IRON MAN. THOUGH HE DID NOT REALIZE IT, THE UNSTABLE CLYTEMNESTRA FELL DEEPLY IN LOVE WITH HIM. WHEN STANE KILLED MORLEY IN AN ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE STARK, SHE INSANELY BLAMED TONY. SHE JOINED FORCES WITH AIM TO KILL HIM ONLY TO DIE HERSELF IN THE ATTEMPT!

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #171



GRETL ANDERS

GRETL WAS AN ALCOHOLIC HOMELESS WOMAN WHO BEFRIENDED STARK WHEN HE HAD HIT BOTTOM IN HIS ALCOHOLIC DESPAIR. ALTHOUGH THEY WERE APPARENTLY NEVER IN LOVE WITH EACH OTHER, TONY FELT A DEEP AFFECTION FOR HER. SHE DIED IN HIS ARMS AFTER GIVING BIRTH TO HER BABY.

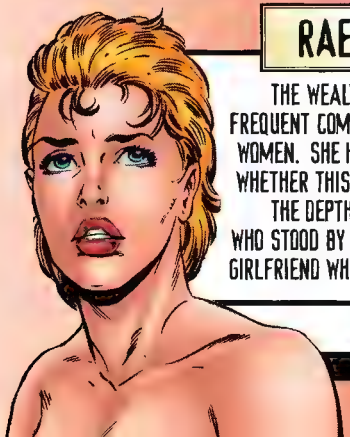
FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #178



BRIE DANIELS

WHEN BRIE DANIELS BEGAN DATING TONY, HE WAS ONCE MORE A POWERFUL INDUSTRIALIST WHILE SHE WAS AN INSECURE WOMAN TRYING TO BREAK INTO ACTING. SHE FINALLY BECAME A SUCCESS, BUT COLDLY ABANDONED STARK AFTER KATHY BARE SHOT AND CRIPPLED HIM!

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #222

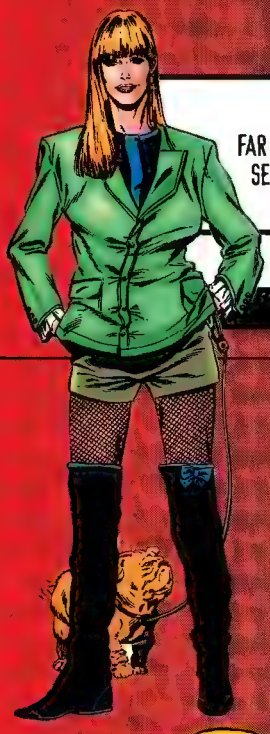


RAE LACOSTE

THE WEALTHY AND SUCCESSFUL OWNER OF A RODEO DRIVE BEAUTY PARLOR, RAE WAS A FREQUENT COMPANION OF STARK'S AND CLAIMED NOT TO BE BOTHERED BY HIS SEEING OTHER WOMEN. SHE HAS SINCE CLAIMED THAT SHE AND TONY WERE NEVER MORE THAN FRIENDS, BUT WHETHER THIS IS TRUE OR NOT IS UNCLEAR.

THE DEPTH OF HER FRIENDSHIP FOR STARK IS UNQUESTIONABLE. SHE WAS ONE OF THE FEW WHO STOOD BY HIM AFTER HE WAS CRIPPLED BY DARE. SHE HAS SINCE BECOME JIM RHODES' GIRLFRIEND WHILE STAYING GOOD FRIENDS WITH TONY.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #223



KATHY DARE

TONY TOLERATED THE BEAUTIFUL BUT NEEDY AND OBSESSIVE KATHY DARE FAR LONGER THAN HE SHOULD HAVE! EVENTUALLY SHE SNAPPED AND SHOT HIM, SEVERING HIS SPINE AND TEMPORARILY CRIPPLING HIM! FINALLY SHE TURNED HER HATRED INWARD AND KILLED HERSELF!

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #233



DR. SU YIN

SU YIN WAS A BRILLIANT CHINESE NEUROLOGIST WHO TRIED TO HELP STARK DEAL WITH THE SYNTHETIC PARASITE THAT HAD REPLACED HIS NERVOUS SYSTEM. ALTHOUGH THEY FELL IN LOVE, SHE FELT SHE COULD NOT PURSUE A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM BECAUSE SHE WAS MARRIED. THINKING HE HIMSELF WAS DYING, TONY ACCEDED TO HER WISHES.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #270



JOANNA NIVENA

JOANNA WAS STARK'S FIANCEE AT THE TIME HE HAD HIS ACCIDENT IN INDOCHINA. FEELING HE WAS NOW A "CRIPPLE" DEPENDENT ON A PACEMAKER TO STAY ALIVE, STARK ENDED THEIR ENGAGEMENT WITHOUT EXPLAINING WHY. LATER, HE TOLD HER ABOUT HIS INJURY AND EVEN REVEALED TO HER HE WAS IRON MAN. SHE, HOWEVER, FELT HIS LIFE AS A SUPER HERO WOULD INTERFERE WITH BEING A GOOD HUSBAND AND FATHER, SO SHE LEFT HIM.

YEARS LATER THEY MET AGAIN. JOANNA WAS NOW HAPPILY MARRIED WITH CHILDREN, AND SHE AND STARK PARTED AS FRIENDS.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #244

VERONICA BENNING

VERONICA WAS STARK'S PHYSICAL THERAPIST WHOSE JOB WAS TO TEACH HIM TO MOVE AGAIN AFTER HE HAD BEEN GIVEN A NEW ARTIFICIAL NERVOUS SYSTEM. AFTER WEEKS OF CLOSE CONTACT, THEY FELL IN LOVE WITH EACH OTHER.

HOWEVER, WHEN THE SENTIENT COMPUTER PROGRAM VOR/TEX TEMPORARILY TOOK OVER STARK'S BODY, IT FELL VICTIM TO HIS ALCOHOLISM AND STARTED DRINKING. NOT REALIZING THAT STARK HAD BEEN MENTALLY POSSESSED, VERONICA WAS APPALLED BY HIS BEHAVIOR AND LEFT HIM. WHY TONY DID NOT GO AFTER VERONICA ONCE HE REGAINED CONTROL OF HIS BODY, NO ONE KNOWS.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #292



KRIS DEGANN

THIS YOUNG COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY CO-ED BECAME THE 19-YEAR-OLD TONY'S FIRST GIRL-FRIEND AFTER THE AVENGERS BROUGHT HIM TO THE PRESENT DAY! UNFORTUNATELY, THE PARTY-LOVING KRIS MAY BE A DANGEROUS INFLUENCE ON A YOUNG MAN WHO KNOWS HIMSELF TO BE A POTENTIAL ALCOHOLIC.

FIRST APPEARANCE: IRON MAN #326

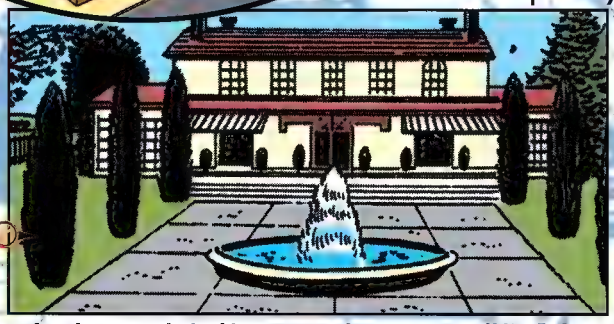
TONY'S HOMES AND GARDENS



Stark Mansion, Manhattan.

Tony Stark spent most of his time growing up at his parents' sumptuous Fifth Avenue mansion on Manhattan's Upper East Side, across from Central Park. Upon the founding of the Avengers, Tony donated the use of the mansion to the team, along with the services of the Stark family butler, Edwin Jarvis. Years later, the mansion was demolished in the Avengers' battle to retake it from capture by the Masters of Evil, but one of the alien Watchers recently restored it to its original condition.

Howard and Maria Stark had an even larger country mansion, Stark House, in South Hampton on Long Island. After temporarily losing control of his company to Mordecai Midas, Tony retreated here for a time, together with his then ally and lover, the original Madame Masque.



Stark House, Long Island.

After leaving the Fifth Avenue mansion, Tony moved to an East Side penthouse, only to be evicted after it was demolished by a bomb planted by the original Spymaster. Later, his other penthouse at Stark International was destroyed by a fire started by the villainous Blacklash. By then he had moved to another penthouse atop the Hawthorne Building on the Upper East Side, but he lost this one when Obadiah Stane stole his company and fortune. By a stroke of good luck, though, Tony kept control of his Villa Mi Casa on a Caribbean island that he also owns!

After reclaiming his wealth following Stane's suicide, Tony built an enormous new home on the Southern California coast, off the Pacific Coast Highway. Deep beneath the cliffs on which the house rested were secret laboratories where Stark worked on his Iron Man battlesuits. Iron Man recently demolished this house after it had been partially wrecked by a super-powered pawn of the Controller. Tony also had a penthouse retreat atop Stark Enterprises' administration building.

Now that the adult Tony Stark has been supplanted by his teenage self, his living arrangements have radically changed: now he is a college student living in a tiny dormitory room at Columbia University. From magnificent mansions to humble dorms: how the mighty have fallen!

Manhattan Penthouse





Hawthorne Building Penthouse

Southern California Home.





Villa Mi Casa, Caribbean.

THOSE WHO ALSO WORE THE ARMOR

ANTHONY STARK IS FAR FROM THE ONLY PERSON WHO HAS EVER ASSUMED THE ROLE OF IRON MAN. ON REPEATED OCCASIONS HE HAS NEEDED SUBSTITUTES TO TAKE OVER FOR HIM. THE FIRST OF THESE WAS HIS FRIEND "HAPPY" HOGAN, WHO POSED AS IRON MAN WHEN STARK HAD BEEN INCAPACITATED BY A HEART ATTACK. LATER, DISILLUSIONED WITH HIS IRON MAN CAREER, STARK TRAINED FORMER BOXER EDDIE MARCH TO BECOME THE NEW IRON MAN, ONLY TO DISCOVER THAT MARCH SUFFERED FROM HANDICAPPING PHYSICAL AILMENTS.

WHEN STARK SUCCUMBED TO ALCOHOLISM THE SECOND TIME, HE BEGGED HIS CLOSE FRIEND JAMES RHODES TO TAKE OVER AS IRON MAN. RHODES FILLED THE JOB ADMIRABLY FOR MANY MONTHS, AND AGAIN WHEN STARK WAS TEMPORARILY IN CRYOGENIC SUSPENDED ANIMATION. SUBSEQUENTLY, RHODES USED ONE OF STARK'S SPECIALTY IRON MAN SUITS IN HIS SOLO CAREER AS WAR MACHINE.

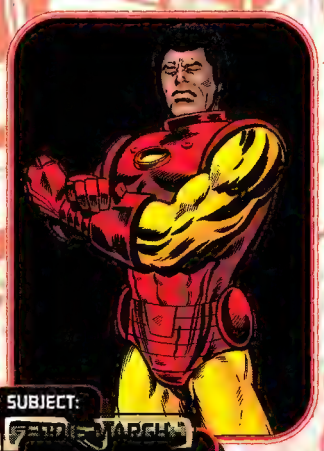
ON OCCASION, SOMEONE HAS EVEN BRIEFLY STOLEN THE IRON MAN IDENTITY FROM STARK. IN A FREAK ACCIDENT VALENTIN SHATALOV, WHO WAS SERVING AS THE SOVIET HERO, CRIMSON DYNAMO, TEMPORARILY SWITCHED MINDS WITH STARK, FINDING HIMSELF IN STARK'S BODY AND IRON MAN'S ARMOR. LATER, THE SENTIENT CYBERSPACE ENTITY VOR/TEX ALSO USURPED STARK'S BODY FOR A TIME.

RECENTLY A NUMBER OF STARK'S FRIENDS WHO HAD SUBSTITUTED AS IRON MAN IN THE PAST BANDED TOGETHER AS THE IRON LEGION IN AN ATTEMPT TO DEFEAT THE DOOMSDAY ANDROID WEAPON ULTIMO. THEY WERE JOINED IN THE LEGION BY BETHANY CABE, WHO THUS BECAME THE ONLY WOMAN EVER TO DON THE IRON MAN ARMOR.



SUBJECT:

IRON MAN #84
MEMBER OF IRON LEGION



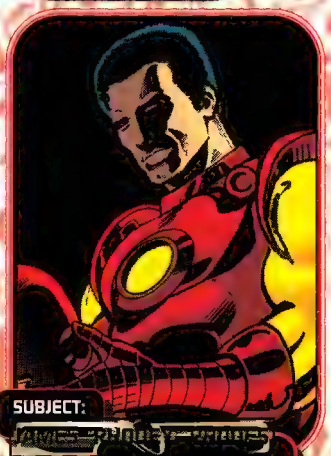
SUBJECT:

TALES OF SUSPENSE #21
MEMBER OF IRON LEGION



SUBJECT:

IRON MAN #98
MEMBER OF IRON LEGION



SUBJECT:

IRON MAN # 169
MEMBER OF IRON LEGION

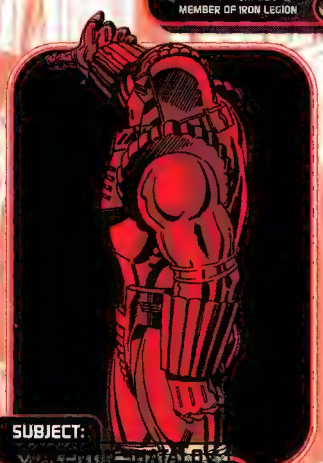


SUBJECT:

IRON MAN #244
MEMBER OF IRON LEGION

SUBJECT:

IRON MAN #300
MEMBER OF IRON LEGION



SUBJECT:

IRON MAN #255



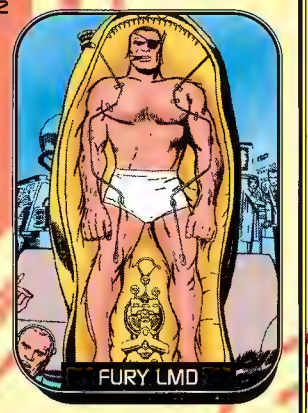
SUBJECT:

IRON MAN #308

STARK INVENTIONS

Tony Stark's greatest invention is surely his own Iron Man armor. With nearly every version he makes radical new advances in technology. But that's far from the only technological marvel Tony's built.

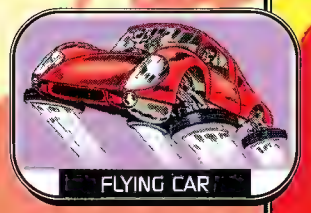
Stark's father Howard presided over the project that created Arsenal, an early robot that was nevertheless capable of independent thought. Building upon his father's work, Tony Stark made major innovations in robotics and computer design. His first major achievements were the **LIFE MODEL DECOYS** he created for SHIELD. These are robots built in the images of actual people, such as SHIELD Director Nick Fury, and programmed to act and think as they would. Stark has secretly used LMDs to impersonate himself at times, but this has proved risky. One Tony Stark LMD broke free of its programmed obedience to Stark and actually tried to take over his identity!


FURY LMD

Fury LMD: First appearance:
STRANGE TALES #135
Stark LMD: First appearance:
IRON MAN #11

More recently Stark and his employee Abe Zimmer developed a computer system so sophisticated that it is capable of creative thought. Stark uses this system, the Heuristically Operative Matrix-Emulation Rostrum, known as HOMER, to help him design new models of the Iron Man armor and entire new computer systems. Stark created a similar system, PLATO, to run the fully-automated headquarters he designed for his short-lived super hero team Force Works.

HOMER: First appearance: IRON MAN #298.
PLATO: First appearance: FORCE WORKS #1


FLYING CAR

In its initial years Tony Stark and his staff designed all of SHIELD's high tech equipment, including its weaponry. Stark's own most celebrated creation for SHIELD is the **SHIELD FLYING CAR**, which utilizes jet engines contained in the wheels.

Flying Car: First appearance: STRANGE TALES #135

Stark's companies have also been heavily involved in the U. S. space program. Stark himself designed a massive **JUPITER LANDING VEHICLE** with the enormous power necessary to withstand Jupiter's immense gravity.


SPACE STATION

Following the demise of Circuits Maximus, Stark's first major project was the design and creation of a **SPACE STATION** in orbit around Earth. Unfortunately, the station was rendered uninhabitable by a virus introduced by AIM.

Jupiter Landing Vehicle:
First appearance:
IRON MAN #113
Space Station:
First appearance:
IRON MAN #207

Tony Stark's imagination seems boundless and inexhaustible. Over the years he has made innovations in a wide range of areas, among which are the following.

The **ENERVATION INTENSIFIER** stimulated cell regeneration through the use of cobalt radiation. Before Stark could perfect it, the device was used to heal the mortal injuries suffered by his friends Happy Hogan and Eddie March. The radiation mutated them into the monsters known as the Freaks. Stark was able to use the device to restore them to normalcy and finally abandoned it altogether.

First appearance:
TALES OF SUSPENSE #74

While still designing munitions, Stark also devised a **HAND-HELD COBALT SUPER-WEAPON** that projected radiation that stunned the human nervous system, and allegedly could thus put a small army out of action. This device came to notice when the Grey Gargoyle tried to steal it.

First appearance:
TALES OF SUSPENSE #93

The Mole Man destroyed an entire Stark Industries building in his attempt to capture another Stark invention, his **NUCLEAR-POWERED EARTH BORER**.

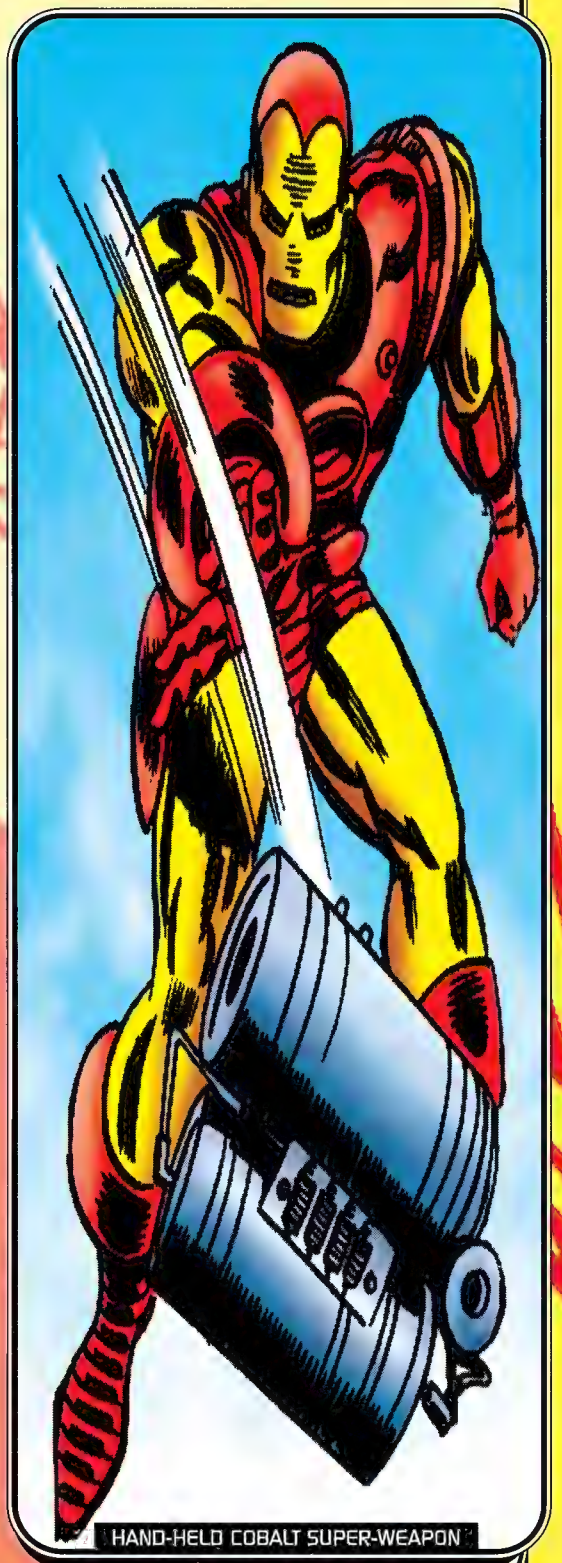
First appearance:
TALES OF SUSPENSE #87

Stark's **CENTRIFUGAL FORCE RAY PROJECTOR** was misleadingly named. Just as high centrifugal force mimics the effects of high gravity, this small device can subject a person or object to high "G" forces. Possibly Stark's device actually projected a beam of gravitons, the subatomic particles carrying gravitational force. Stark used the device to increase the G-forces on his massive foe, the Crusher, causing him to sink into the Earth.

First appearance:
TALES OF SUSPENSE #91

Stark's **COSMIC RAY INTENSIFIER** generates radiation at intensities far greater than normally found in the void of outer space. This has been a target for theft by the Red Ghost, who sought to duplicate the mutagenic effects that cosmic radiation had on himself and his trained apes.

First appearance:
IRON MAN #15


HAND-HELD COBALT SUPER-WEAPON

STATUS: ACTIVE

CLEARANCE: 001G

ID: MARV/IM:L

PROJECT:
CLASSIFIED

ACCESS:
GRANTED

SUBJECT:
TONY STARK

FILE:
STARK OF THE FUTURE

PROFILE DATA:
TONY STARK IS ONE OF THE GREAT SCIENTIFIC GENIUSES OF HIS TIME, AND IRON MAN ONE OF ITS LEADING HEROES. WHAT WILL BECOME OF THEIR LEGACY TO HUMANITY IN CENTURIES TO COME?

THERE IS NO ONE ANSWER, BECAUSE THERE IS NO ONE DESTINED FUTURE FOR THE MARVEL UNIVERSE. RATHER, THE TIMELINE DIVERGES INTO INNUMERABLE ALTERNATE PATHS, EACH WITH ITS OWN REALITY.

THE STARK

IN ONE OF THESE, AN ALIEN RACE CALLING THEMSELVES MARTIANS INVADE AND QUICKLY CONQUER THE EARTH IN 2001 A. D.. IN DESPAIR, TONY STARK RETREATS BACK INTO ALCOHOLISM AND LAUNCHES A SPACECRAFT CONTAINING HIS GREATEST INVENTIONS, INCLUDING IRON MAN'S ARMOR, SO THE MARTIANS WILL NOT GET HOLD OF THEM.

EVENTUALLY THE CRAFT CRASH LANDS ON A DISTANT PLANET INHABITED BY A PRIMITIVE HUMANOID RACE. WITHIN A DECADE THEY MASTER THE TECHNOLOGY WITHIN AND NAME THEIR RACE AFTER THEIR NEW GOD: THE STARK.

THEY REMAIN A PEACEFUL PEOPLE UNTIL A GREAT CIVIL WAR IN THE 28TH CENTURY, IN WHICH THE WARRIORS AMONG THEM WIPE OUT ALL THE SCIENTISTS. IN THE 30TH CENTURY THE STARK ARE FEARED THROUGHOUT THE GALAXY AS CONQUERORS BACKED BY TECHNOLOGY THAT REMAINS ASTONISHINGLY ADVANCED EVEN THEN.

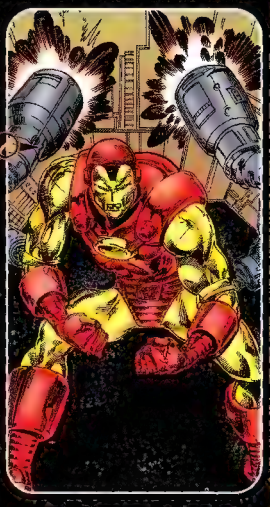
FIRST APPEARANCE: *GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #2*

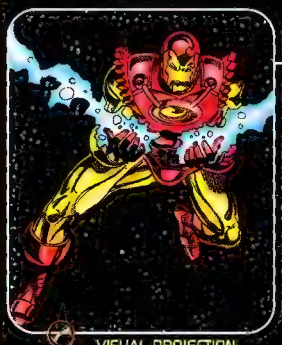
IRON MAN 2020

IN ANOTHER ALTERNATE TIMELINE, ARNO STARK, A YOUNG RELATIVE OF THE NOW ELDERLY TONY, BOUGHT STARK ENTERPRISES AND UPDATED IRON MAN ARMOR FOR THE 21 ST CENTURY. BUT, AS THE IRON MAN OF 2020 A. D., ARNO STARK WAS FORCED TO HIRE HIMSELF OUT AS A MERCENARY TO HELP SUPPORT HIS BUSINESS, AS WHEN THE NEFARIOUS SUNSET BAIN EMPLOYED HIM TO BATTLE HER OLD NEMESIS MACHINE MAN. ULTIMATELY, THOUGH, ARNO'S BETTER NATURE WON OUT AND HE BECAME A HERO WORTHY OF THE IRON MAN LEGEND.

FIRST APPEARANCE:
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #20

VISUAL PROJECTION:
IRON MAN 2020





VISUAL PROJECTION:
IRON MAN 2093

IRON MAN 2093

BY 2093 A. D., THE TIME OF ARNO'S GRANDSON, ANDROS STARK, THE IRON MAN ARMOR HAD BEEN OUTLAWED AS BEING TOO DANGEROUS IF IT FELL INTO THE WRONG HANDS. UNFORTUNATELY FOR THE WORLD, THE WRONG HANDS WERE ANDROS'S OWN! AS THE IRON MAN OF 2093, HE JOINED FORCES WITH THE ANCIENT DOCTOR DOOM OF THAT TIME TO CONQUER THE EARTH BY WIPING OUT MOST OF ITS POPULATION WITH NEUTRON WEAPONRY. THE LEGENDARY WIZARD MERLIN BROUGHT THE ORIGINAL IRON MAN TO THAT TIME, AND DESPITE ARNO'S FAR MORE ADVANCED ARMOR, HIS ANCESTOR SUCCEEDED IN DEFEATING HIM AND ENDING HIS GENOCIDAL PLANS.

FIRST APPEARANCE: *IRON MAN #250*

STARK-FUJIKAWA

UPON THE RECENT DEATH OF THE ADULT TONY STARK, HIS EXECUTORS JAMES RHODES AND PEPPER HOGAN PRESIDED OVER NEGOTIATIONS TO SELL STARK ENTERPRISES TO THE JAPANESE ELECTRONICS CORPORATION, FUJIKAWA. IN YET ANOTHER ALTERNATE FUTURE, STARK-FUJIKAWA, LED BY A MAN NAMED HIKARU, HAS BECOME ONE OF THE RUTHLESS MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS THAT DOMINATES THE EARTH OF 2099 A. D.

THE QUESTION THAT FACES US IN THE PRESENT IS WHETHER THE RECENT STARK-FUJIKAWA MERGER WILL BE PERMANENT. IF TONY STARK DOES NOT REGAIN CONTROL OF HIS COMPANY, THEN IT IS ON THE PATH TO BECOMING THE AMORAL CORPORATE POWER THAT OPPRESSES THE AMERICA OF THE FUTURE.

FIRST APPEARANCE: *SPIDER-MAN 2099 #5*



VISUAL PROJECTION:
STARK FUJIKAWA

SECURITY IMPRINT



YOUNG TONY STARK

For years the Avengers' greatest foe, Kang the Conqueror, had secretly manipulated the mind of Tony Stark. Until very recently, Stark maintained conscious control of his own thoughts and actions. But then Kang took full control, turning Iron Man into a weapon with which to destroy the rest of the Avengers.

Deciding that only an uncorrupted Tony Stark could defeat his brain-washed counterpart, Captain America and other Avengers traveled back in time. They arrived in the past of an alternate timeline in which Tony Stark was only nineteen years old. Kang's son Tobias followed the Avengers and murdered Tony's parents years before they were destined to die in an automobile accident.

Newly orphaned, young Tony accompanied the Avengers to their own time, where he outfitted himself in his own version of Iron Man's armor. But he proved no match for his older self when they met in battle. Young Tony's heart was severely injured in combat, and so he must now wear a chestplate with a pacemaker just as his elder self once did.

The older Iron Man shook off Kang's control just before dying himself. Now young Tony has taken over the role of Iron Man. In his private life he is now a student at Columbia University, watched over by the Stark family butler, Edwin Jarvis.

ARMOR COMPARISONS

NAME	DURABILITY LEVEL	OFFENSIVE CAPABILITIES	SPECIAL FEATURES	TONY STARK'S COMMENTS	OVERALL RATING
CRIMSON DYNAMO 	5	6	Hand-blasters fire electrical bolts, can launch small missiles from back, amplified strength, boot jets.	My late friend Anton Vanko was the first person to design a battle-suit that was the equal of Iron Man's. But since his death, the Dynamo suit has remained basically a one-trick pony, relying too heavily on one weapons system!	6
DOCTOR DOOM 	10	10	Nuclear-powered battlesuit, concussive particle beam projectors, force field, amplified strength, boot jets	People say I'm a genius, but Doom operates on a level I can only begin to comprehend. I have a feeling that if Doom ever put his mind to it, he could make a suit of armor that would demolish mine like tinfoil.	10
FIREPOWER 	7	9	Particle cannon, lasers, surface-to-air rocket launchers, small tactical nuclear missile launcher, amplified strength, boot jets	Edwin Cord's people made the Firepower suit far more advanced and powerful than what I was using at the time. So I switched to a new model. Though Firepower still had greater strength, my new armor made Firepower obsolete.	8
FORCE 	3	7	Force field projectors used for both offense and defense, amplified strength, boot jets	Like the Dynamo, Force relied too heavily on a single weapons system, counting on his force fields to substitute for his armor's lack of durability. When he goes into action now, he uses one of my old Iron Man suits.	5
GUARDSMAN 	4	3	Repulsor rays, amplified strength, boot jets	When Kevin O'Brien and I designed the Guardsman armor years ago, it definitely rivaled Iron Man's. But I wouldn't have sold the rights to the government unless Iron Man had advanced far beyond that level.	4
IRON MONGER 	8	7	Repulsor rays, laser projector, amplified strength, boot jets	Obadiah Stane's scientists made the same mistake as the Titanium Man, thinking bigger is necessarily better. None of the tinkering done since has made the Iron Monger suit keep pace with Iron Man's new models.	7
MAULER 	3	4	Laser cannon, electron beam particle gun, amplified strength, boot jets	The Mauler armor was adequate for its time, I suppose, but hardly cutting edge nowadays. Let's put it this way. During the "Armor Wars," Brendan Doyle surrendered his Mauler suit without a fight.	3
SUNTURION 	4	10	Has turned himself into a being of pure microwave energy, can tap and project virtually limitless microwave power, and can teleport himself at light speed.	Whereas everybody else is trying to do his own version of Iron Man, Arthur Dearborn came up with something entirely different. Able to become intangible and drawing on nearly limitless energy, Sunturion is nearly invincible.	10
TITANIUM MAN 	10	6	Plasma beam projectors, paralysis beam projector, amplified strength, boot jets	The Titanium Man's weapons technology never could keep pace with mine. And his gigantic size made him no match for my speed and maneuverability. But if you didn't keep moving, he'd overwhelm you with his size and strength.	8
IRON MAN 	10	10	Advanced cybernetic controls, repulsor rays, lasers, mini-missile launchers, amplified strength, boot jets	It's only through continually redesigning and upgrading my armor that I can keep even with or ahead of my many rivals.	10

While the technological genius of Tony Stark virtually knew no bounds and the improvements he made to his battle armor were numerous, occasionally even a genius can come up with an improvement or two that actually isn't. Here then are...

TONY STARK'S MOST EMBARRASSING ARMOR IMPROVEMENTS



JET SKATES

Years before the coming of Rollerblades, Tony Stark proved his inventive genius by inventing Iron Man's retractable jet skates! For years Iron Man would literally skate rings around his adversaries while they looked on, befuddled, as if thinking their nemesis had gone insane. Perhaps Tony spent so many years in the lab growing up that he never got to go roller skating, so he felt compelled to do it as an adult super hero.

It could have been worse. Iron Man wannabe Night Thrasher started out riding a skateboard.

First appearance: TALES OF SUSPENSE #40

HORNS AND RIVETS

Somehow Tony Stark didn't think that the image of a guy in a metal suit bearing down on criminals was scary enough, and it's true, his original helmet did make him look like he was constantly grinning. So he gave his new helmet horns! After all, it worked for Daredevil! But...it didn't work for Iron Man. It just made him look like he had a weird widow's peak hairline, like Richard Nixon or Norman Osborn. Stark had to face the fact that whereas everyone knows Tony is constantly horny, Iron Man just isn't.

Tony also somehow thought that leaving rivets all around his faceplate was a fashion statement. It's more like letting the seams show on a suit. Sorry, the rivets just weren't riveting.

First appearance: TALES OF SUSPENSE #48

THE IRON SNOZZLE

Still not convinced Iron Man looked terrifying enough, Tony gave his faceplate a nose. This would have worked, say, if in the midst of battle the Mandarin took a look at it and fell down laughing. Or maybe Tony could have installed miniature repulsor ray projectors in it that he could activate by sneezing. Whatever. He ended up cutting off his iron nose to spite his iron face.

First appearance: IRON MAN #68


KAMIC RIDER
MARIKA